

The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1874.

The Week.

MR. BRISTOW has kept the financial world during the past week in a state of irritating suspense about his loan. On the 2d of July he issued a circular calling for bids for the whole or any part of the loan up to the 23d in sealed proposals. As the object of the loan is to convert the six per cent. bonds into fives, it was of course not open to him to accept less than par, and the competition was therefore to determine what better than par could be attained. The plan is semi-popular in its character—that is, it put aside the Boutwell machinery of private contracts with syndicates and went into the general market. But the difficulty at once presented itself that the number of bids from investors who wished to hold the bonds could not be expected to be very large between the 2d and 23d of July. People who buy bonds for investment take some time to make up their minds, and need to have the process of getting them and the advantage of getting them explained to them by somebody in whom they have confidence. Moreover, they are not likely to take the trouble of sending in “sealed proposals” to the Treasury and security for execution of their engagements. This whole process looks formidable and complicated to the average investor. From this source, therefore, the Secretary was not likely to receive many bids under the proposed conditions. The only other source open to him was the bankers, home and foreign, who buy bonds wholesale for the purpose of retailing them at a profit. But these gentlemen do not like to take part of a \$179,000,000 loan without having some guarantee as to the price and time at which the remainder will be sold; so that their bids, unless a syndicate took the whole, were almost certain to have tacked to them, as a condition, a right of “call” on the remainder of the loan. The result has been, in fact, that home bids for only about \$10,000,000 have been positively accepted, and the Messrs. Rothschild of London and J. & W. Seligman & Co. of this city have taken \$45,000,000 at par, minus $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission, with a “call” on the remainder any time during six months, and they assume all expenses. There is little doubt that this will eventually dispose of the whole loan.

The National Board of Underwriters has caused a report to be made on the condition of the Fire Department of Chicago, by a special committee appointed for the purpose, and as usual it brings us at once to the canker-worm of all American institutions. The Department, it says, is under the control of a board of four persons called the “Commissioners of Police and Fire,” three of whom are elected by “the people,” and one appointed by the local authorities on the nomination of the local board of underwriters. But as police matters are deemed more important than fire matters, five-sixths of the time of the board is given to the former and only one to the latter. The direct management of the Fire Department is left to the Chief Marshal, who nominates for all vacancies, *subject to the confirmation of the Board*, and, as might be expected, “the appointments are mainly made for political services, the Chief is besieged by politicians in behalf of themselves and their friends, and prevented from giving the necessary attention to the details of the department which discipline requires.” The fire wardens, too, have to report to him, and if they lodge a complaint against anybody, the politicians swarm up to prevent any action being taken. The discipline of the department is bad. The men lounge about the doors of the engine-houses, smoking and sleeping, without uniform. Officers are not distinguishable from privates by any outward sign, and no respect is paid them by their subordinates. They are not saluted, or obeyed with any alacrity. The street patrols are not obliged to give any account of their time. The fire wardens are

mainly occupied with “politics.” The telegraph wires are carried over the roofs of houses instead of on poles. But the supply of water is very good.

Upon receipt of this report, the Board of Underwriters acted promptly, by passing resolutions recommending the fire insurance companies to take no more risks in Chicago after the 1st of October next, (1) unless permanent fire limits are established contemporaneous with the corporate limits of the city, and suitable persons are appointed to enforce within these limits the laws relating to the erection of wooden buildings and the exclusion of dangerous manufacturing establishments; (2) unless a stringent building law is passed and enforced by a suitable bureau; and (3) unless there was at once a complete reorganization of the fire department under a board of commissioners or a competent head, specially charged with its care; the eradication of the political element from it, and the subjection of the men to military discipline; and the organization of a corps of sappers and miners. We thus see from the example of Chicago and Boston that it costs an American city from \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000 to get the politicians out of one department of the municipal government, and this may serve to give us an idea of what it will probably cost to get them out of the Custom-house, the Post-office, and the Treasury, to say nothing of the State administration. These sums would erect a good building in a healthy situation in either city in which ten thousand politicians could be lodged in winter, or would take them to the seaside in summer, and the interest on the remainder would supply them, their friends and relatives, with wholesome food and tobacco and pure whiskey in reasonable quantities, besides two suits of black clothes apiece during the year, which is all they ask; and the decent people of the country would be thus left free to conduct the Government with efficiency and respectability.

The kidnapping of a child in Philadelphia, nearly a month ago, though it was at first received with more coolness by the public and police of that city than by the rest of the country, has at last led to the offer of \$20,000 reward by the Mayor for the recovery and the detection of the kidnappers. A New York gentleman of “ample means,” who says the story is making his invalid wife insane, also offers \$20,000 for the recovery of the child and no questions asked, through the *Herald* of this city. Up to the present moment, however, nothing has been heard of the child in spite of the exertions of the police and the vigilance of the people. The fact that the father is a man of moderate means, in embarrassed circumstances, and that his wife since the child's disappearance has been passing some of her time at a watering-place, has supplied a correspondent of the *Herald* with the materials for a theory that the affair was probably what the police call “a put-up job”—that is, that the parents were privy to the theft, and even devised it as a means of extracting money from friends and the public to be used in extricating the father from his difficulties. It is certainly extraordinary that clever kidnappers, having their pick of children, should have selected the son of a poor and insolvent man for their first attempt. But there is not much comfort for the public on either horn of the dilemma, because it would be nearly as bad to have popular credulity practised on in this way as to have children successfully held to ransom, inasmuch as the success of an attempt at fraud would prevent vigilance or indignation when a *bona-fide* case occurred.

The success of kidnapping in some countries of Europe makes one wonder that, considering the growth of the Granger movement in America, it has not been practised more extensively here. There has been a revival of it of late in Italy and in Sicily, where it is turned to excellent account by the Grangers of those countries who farm on the *métayer* system, or as we say on shares. As the landlord has to go out to his

farm every fall in order to take account of the crop and collect his dues, the happy thought has occurred to the tenants of searing him to such a degree that he won't come. This is done by capturing him, carrying him into the hills, and holding him for a ransom. In Sicily, according to the last accounts, land-owners now only visit their farms under a strong escort of cavalry, and some prefer surrendering their rents to running the risk. In the West, the same thing is accomplished by more decent means, as the Grangers have the law-making power. Instead, therefore, of putting a stockholder or bondholder in bodily terror, so that he shall not visit his road and collect fares or charges, they fix the charge to suit themselves, and denounce him as a law-breaker, and threaten him with fine and imprisonment if he murmurs or resists. The Governor of Wisconsin fired a salute of one hundred guns the other day on receiving the news that the victims of that State could get no redress in the courts, much as Sicilian brigands would let off their carbines with joy on hearing that the prisoners' friends had given up all hope from the police and that the ransom was on its way.

The Tilton-Beecher case has had added to it since our last issue a statement from Mr. Beecher, contradicting certain assertions of Tilton's and promising to explain his own letters in detail to the committee; also a statement from Mrs. Tilton, contradicting and severely denouncing her husband. The committee has likewise published an official report of the cross-examination of Mr. Tilton, filling three pages of the newspapers. None of these documents, let us say, throw any light on the question. Mr. Beecher's statement contributed nothing to a solution beyond his admission that the letters cited by Mr. Tilton were genuine. Mrs. Tilton's letter was a simple denial, rather incoherently expressed, accompanied by some sad revelations of domestic misery. The publication of Mr. Tilton's cross-examination by the committee was, we will not say inexcusable, but wholly unnecessary, for reasons we have given elsewhere, and it is too bad that it should be thrust on the public attention. We must remind the committee that Mr. Tilton is not on his trial. If the time devoted to cross-examining him had been spent in examining Mr. Beecher, we might ere now have reached the end of this unsavory affair. The libel suit brought against Mr. Tilton on Tuesday by a reporter employed on his semi-official organ, the Brooklyn *Argus*, only adds to the persistent mystification of which the public is beginning to be excessively weary.

Missouri political affairs are not now very attractive to outsiders, the Democrats seeming to have things much their own way, though the general public would be interested enough should it appear that the chops and changes of politics might bring round to Senator Schurz a chance to keep his place in the Senate. The State Democratic Committee have just issued an address, in which, among many things neither very instructive nor very entertaining, they make a curious calculation that Missouri is henceforth to be even overwhelmingly Democratic. They point out that in 1872 Missouri polled, in round numbers, no more than 277,000 votes, while Indiana, with a smaller population, polled a hundred thousand more—377,917. The committee therefore estimate the reserve vote of Missouri at 100,000, which in '72 was not put into the ballot-box because of the disgust inspired by recollections of the old registry law, but which they think will be sure to be brought out now. They think, therefore, that they may fairly count this autumn on about 135,000 majority for the Democratic State ticket. We should advise them, however, not only to bring out the disaffected on election-day, but previously to make a study of the operations of their brethren in Indiana along the southern tier of counties; and also of those of their Republican friends along the interior lines of railroad; and they will find that there are many ways of getting full returns out of a population no larger than that of Indiana in 1872, when for about every four and a half men, women, and children in the whole State, there was one voter either for Mr. Morton or for Mr. Hendricks. The committee have little to say besides these and similar words of encouragement to the faithful. To the "hard-money, home-rule, free-

trade" Democracy they give as little comfort on the first point as most of the Western committees and conventions. They speak most plainly about the Grangers and the taxation of the bonds, declaring the party "opposed to the system by which a large portion of the wealth of the county is exempted from taxation." As for the Grangers, the party, they are told, approves of them, recognizes their principles as Democratic, and invites them to come under the friendly banner. The home-rule and free-trade planks of the Eastern Democracy the Missourians are gratifyingly clear for; but the other plank they draw back from. Two Democratic county conventions, by the way, in Ohio have just pronounced for inflation and easy business, and it looks as if there might be need of the best-instructed of the Eastern members to teach financial rudiments for one more winter.

It appears, in spite of the entire failure of the Republican Congressional Committee to "let on," as they say, that there ever was any such place as South Carolina, that the purification of the politics of that State is nevertheless to be done "within the party"—i. e., the Republican party, which, as the *St. Paul Press* says, has become what we see it to-day by a process of historical evolution along a path of development marked at every step with the immortal witnesses of the high and noble purposes which have controlled it. Congressman R. B. Elliott, chairman of the State Central Committee, does not feel himself strong enough to call names, and probably there is no one member of the committee whose house is not mostly composed of glass, so that the address which they have just put forth is not so exciting as it might be. But to the officials who at present have the State in their hands it may mean a great deal more than its mealy-mouthed phrases convey to a Northerner; for, in brief, it conveys to these officials a threat or a warning that the Northern wing of the party is sick of them, and that the weight of Federal influence, and perhaps patronage, will henceforth be thrown against them. If so, something will be done, perhaps done too late, which two or three years ago might have been very effectual against the robbers. Now, it may suit Moses and his friends to be less tractable. Among the new reformers we observe one or perhaps two of the well-known name of Mackey, and we see that one of them recently took home the tidings from Washington that he had been significantly asked at the White House why Moses was not impeached and removed. This goes for corroborative evidence as to the disposal of the Federal power during the forthcoming contest, and it sharpens and brightens all eyes and ears in the reform camp. One of the Mackeys is a judge, and he is reported as thus addressing from the bench a negro convicted of petty larceny:

"I could send you to the penitentiary for several months; but were I to do so you would be in bad company, and besides, the Governor might possibly pardon you in a few weeks, and that would disgrace you. I will put you in better company than you would find in the penitentiary by sending you to the county jail for one day; and let this be a warning to you, for should you again be convicted of a similar offence you will go to the penitentiary and have to remain, as we will then have a governor who may not so freely exercise the pardoning power."

On the whole, it does not seem at this distance that there is much to choose between the eloquent Elliott and the less eloquent Cain, or that any but sanguine people need hope that a substitution of Mackey for Moses will effect any good for South Carolina. The evil lies too deep to be cured in a minute, and the State has probably a desperately hard political road before her.

Brady, the sailor, and sometime third mate of the lost steamer *Atlantic*, who was on board the *Pennsylvania* steamship when all her officers were swept overboard but one, and who then took the command and brought her into port, has been suing the Company for salvage, having declined a present of \$1,000 which they offered him. The District Court, Judge Cadwallader, has awarded him \$4,000; and in doing so decides a very nice point—whether a passenger who exerts himself both to save the ship and his own life can be safely and fairly admitted to the rights of a salvor. The objection to it on

grounds of expediency are obvious. If the rule were well established, it might convert passengers in times of great difficulty and danger into intriguers against the credit and authority of the officers who would make their exertions for the common safety a matter of bargain at the critical moment. Brady's case differed from that of the engineer who saved the *Great Eastern*, in that the latter was employed or requested to act by the captain, while Brady simply obeyed the necessity of the case in the absence of the captain. The decisions, however, all run against the passengers' right to salvage, and Brady's exploit was too peculiar to make his success of much consequence as a precedent.

The season has been noticeable for calamities by water, some due to human carelessness or ignorance, and some, if we may say so, to the visitation of Providence. The two disasters in Massachusetts, the lesser one in Connecticut, and the so-called waterspout at Eureka, Nevada, which destroyed several lives and much property, were followed on Sunday last at Allegheny City, a suburb of Pittsburg, Pa., by a flood second only to the flood at Mill River. It had one circumstance which heightened the fear and horror to a point above that of the Massachusetts calamity, for it occurred in the night without even a gaslight to assist the victims to escape, the gas-works being ruined, and it came without warning. Briefly described, what happened appears to have been this: Allegheny City has behind it high, amphitheatrical hills, down from which go toward the river some "runs," the waters of which have gradually eaten out the earth of the hills, till now the runs are precipitously banked. Into these from the sides flow similar streams, usually of petty size. As one of these runs, called Butcher's Run, approached the city, houses of the tenement order occupied its banks, and still further on its usually scanty stream was bricked over and confined to a sewer. For many years it has made no trouble except when it became fetid. But on Sunday night the storm, which visited the city in the day-time, became much heavier, though not so much so as to alarm people, and the inhabitants went to bed in security, the rain, indeed, preventing the sense of danger, for its noise blended with that of the waters. When these came down, which they soon did tremendously, they seem to have proceeded as far as they could freely, then built a dam of *débris*, then overcome this with a crash, then built another, and so gone on to the end. Many houses are swept away, and the loss of life is reported at nearly two hundred. Pittsburg is supplying the needs of the sufferers.

The International Congress of which we spoke last week has met at Brussels, and Baron Jomini has been elected president. Nothing new has been reached with regard to the programme, and nothing has occurred as yet to indicate the probable result. Any agreement that can be reached providing for the more humane treatment of prisoners and wounded will, doubtless, meet with general approval; or, in other words, the philanthropic part of the programme will probably be a success; as much cannot be said about the proposed modifications of international usage. Of these it may be said, in general terms, that they are favorable to non-maritime powers with large standing armies. It is for their interest, for instance, that persons not embodied in the regular military force should be forbidden to rise on an invader, and that private property should be respected at sea. The probabilities are, therefore, that while receiving strong support from Russia and Germany and Austria, and the smaller powers who have little interest either way, they will receive none from France or England.

Public opinion in England seems to cling to the right of capturing enemies' vessels at sea as necessary to secure the full advantage of English naval superiority, but now there is another side to this question, as is well shown by an article in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* of July 1, by a captain in the French navy, M. Aube, in which he maintains that the true policy for France to pursue is to abandon the task of creating a great iron-clad navy, in which she cannot compete with England,

and which in time of war would be of little use to her, and confine herself to equipping fast frigates for the destruction of the enemy's commerce. He says that England's enormous heavy navy secures her against invasion, but her life depends on her commerce. More damage can be done to her through her commerce than in any other way, and how much might be done by light cruisers the career of the *Alabama* shows. He cites in support of this view the fact that the United States with no navy did not hesitate to urge the *Alabama* claims in the strongest way, and Great Britain evidently felt all through the controversy that the United States had the advantage of her in case the dispute was not settled peaceably—a direct result of the *Alabama* depredations. He points out too that the French iron-clad fleet was of little or no use during the Franco-Prussian war, having been employed solely in blockade duty, which lighter ships would have performed just as well. From this point of view, it is clearly the interest of powers whose foreign commerce is large to have private property at sea declared inviolable, whatever the strength of their fleets may be.

The bill for the Regulation of Public Worship introduced in the House of Lords by the Archbishop of York has made its way down to the House of Commons, where it meets with vigorous opposition, led by Mr. Gladstone. His objections to it are that while it proposes to enforce uniformity of practice, it leaves discretionary power in the hands of the bishops, which would either be used to compel uniformity or it would not. If it were so used, it would in a few weeks plunge all England in excitement, because it would compel the Low Church clergy to revive practices which would be just as offensive as many of those which the Ritualists have revived, and it would disturb parishes in which worship has been peaceably and profitably conducted for generations, with harmless peculiarities of ceremonial not in use elsewhere. In short, the Liberals, both in church and state, seem unwilling to entrust the bishops with the proposed power, and demand that if there is to be any legislation on the subject, it shall define rigidly what the ritual of the Church of England is to be, and leave little or nothing to anybody's notions of propriety. One of the defects pointed out in the measure was that it left bishops free to conduct service in any manner they pleased if they were not incumbents of parishes. To the world outside the church the debate has been mainly interesting as indicating the increasing difficulty experienced by the state in regulating the church, and thus the consequently increasing strength of the tendency to separate them.

Mr. Forsyth, who is the father of the bill now before the English House of Commons giving the suffrage to unmarried female taxpayers, presided recently at the annual meeting of the National Society for Women's Suffrage in London, and reported progress. It appeared that 161 members of the last Parliament, who were previously favorable to the bill, have been returned in this one, and 72 recent converts. Of the opponents of the movement in the last Parliament, 117 have lost their seats, and so have 77 supporters. Mr. Stansfeld also spoke, and Miss Cobbe, who "castigated" Goldwin Smith, and Lord Talbot de Malahide, Mr. Arthur Arnold, and Mr. Jacob Bright. The meeting was mainly composed of ladies, but the gentlemen did most of the speaking, and, we need hardly say, spoke highly of women. Mr. Forsyth said "the argument of intellectual inferiority" had been abandoned, and Lord Talbot de Malahide, who is an Irishman, went further and said that women were the most intelligent portion of the community. Mr. Forsyth apologized for abandoning the effort to secure the suffrage for married women, and explained that he only did so because he saw it would imperil the bill, for which, however, there is no chance this session. There is nothing new about the movement in this country. The preponderance of opinion is against the probability of its success at the approaching election in Michigan, where it will doubtless be seriously injured by "The Brooklyn Scandal," in which so many of its ardent supporters are prominent actors, and are now all unbosoming themselves to the reporters.

DOES THE CURRENCY BILL CONTRACT OR INFLATE?

A WELL-KNOWN story tells us how an old man ascertained by various experiments the impossibility of pleasing anybody, even about so simple a matter as the driving of a donkey. But then he lived before the days of conference committees. Congress, in its last piece of legislation, appears to have found much better fortune. It passed a bill which suits, and which ought to satisfy, both the inflationists and their opponents. For the former discover in the measure an expansion of more than fifty million dollars; while the latter, according to an estimate printed in a leading newspaper of this city, are to be comforted by an indirect contraction at least twice as great.

Study of the act by which our law-makers have afforded us an exact gauge of their capacity and desires in monetary legislation, only strengthens our first impression that the final efforts of the inflationists were planned with ingenuity and rewarded by success. Whenever a section of the bill showed a tendency to produce contraction, it was balanced in another section by some provision of an opposite drift. Thus Section 4, which facilitates the withdrawal of national-bank notes, is offset by Section 2, which increases the profit upon circulation to the extent of nearly one-half per cent. per annum in the case of country banks, of seven-eighths per cent. in the cities of redemption, and of as much as one and three-quarters per cent. in New York. The gain is greatest where it was most needed—with the banks which placed the least value upon their circulation as it stood.

The direct inflation caused by the act is of course \$26,000,000. This sum has been made a permanent addition to our legal-tender money. Nor does it affect the force of the expansion that the notes were already outstanding. But for the 6th Section of this act the condition of the Treasury would have warranted, and even compelled, the gradual withdrawal of every dollar of overissued greenbacks during the current fiscal year. The process would have caused little disturbance and less suffering. For the issue, until Congress endorsed it, was barely more than nominal. The notes emitted by authority of Mr. Richardson remained even to the end distrusted and unused. Some of them have been regained by the Government, and added to its currency reserve. The rest have gone back to the Treasury, where they are locked up in trust for the banks. The return made to the Comptroller of the Currency on May 1 exhibited an increase of \$21,525,000 in the legal-tender notes represented by U. S. certificates compared with the amount deposited at the corresponding date in 1873.

The change which the act produced in the status of the "illegal tenders" will be realized by a moment's consideration of a single point. The motion to reduce the outstanding greenbacks to the lawful 356 millions found very little support either in the Senate or in the House. What would have been the fate of a proposition to contract the issue below that normal amount? Could it have expected the compliment of a vote? Hardly. The boldest advocate of honest money in Congress would have received the suggestion with a shudder. Yet now 382 millions stand where 356 millions stood then. The field of our next battle lies beyond them.

The indirect inflation caused by the abolition in Section 2 of every vestige of reserve upon circulation, is greater than the direct increase of currency established by Section 6, and is just as positive an expansion as the issue of so many additional notes. Its extent, calculated according to the latest report, and on the supposition of the withdrawal by the banks from their redeeming agents of an amount equal to the entire released reserve, will be as much as \$36,170,242, distributed among the different classes as follows:

Gain of country banks.....	\$35,457,350
Net gain in cities of redemption.....	3,020,831
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	\$38,478,181
Less net withdrawal from New York banks.....	2,307,939
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Total expansion.....	\$36,170,242

This, remember, is the minimum enlargement—the smallest increase contemplated by the authors of Section 2. But we can safely predict that the redeeming agents will not be called upon for the whole of the released reserve, or anything like it. So unprofitable a demand is scarcely imaginable, even as a possibility. If the distribution continues according to the present proportion, the indirect inflation will rise to \$55,051,565, apportioned thus:

Gain of country banks.....	\$35,457,350
Net gain in cities of redemption.....	14,232,479
Net gain of New York banks.....	5,361,736
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Total expansion.....	\$55,051,565

It has been said that the banks, remembering their experience last September, will decline to avail themselves of the permission so unwisely given to weaken their reserve. Whether they refuse the privilege or accept it, their decision cannot alter the character of the act. On what ground do men venture who expect self-denial from the banks? What was the lesson which the panic taught? Was it not that the strong banks will support the weaker ones at the expense of their depositors and the risk of their credit; that, when the pinch comes, the rash and the prudent occupy the same footing with "pooled" resources and a common fate?

While the expansion induced by the section we have considered is thus large and indisputable, the contraction of the currency which has been claimed as the indirect outcome of other provisions of the act cannot be considerable, and may prove imaginary. The estimate already mentioned, which was published in one of our city papers as having come to it from Washington, rates the amount of this contraction at \$117,000,000. If the computation had not been widely copied, it would be unworthy of serious criticism. No financial statement more absurd than the figures which it gives emanated from the Capitol through all the recent Congressional discussion, and this it will be admitted is saying a great deal. The very first item of the estimate credits the 5 per cent. deposited against circulation with producing a contraction of \$17,000,000, because, to use its own words, "that amount of legal-tenders will be irrevocably withdrawn, so long as the national banks keep their notes out." Now, whether these greenbacks are held by the Treasury or locked up in the vaults of the banks, cannot possibly make the slightest difference to anybody. In either position, they form the bottom of the reserve. We may note here, but rather as a curiosity than as a matter of importance, that the provisions for redeeming the circulation do really involve a slight expansion, instead of the contraction erroneously claimed for them. The Treasurer of the United States is required to redeem bank-notes on presentation. But he is not obliged to notify the issuing institutions before the first day of each month. Thus, to some extent, greenbacks will be released for a season, and national bills will take their place in the reserve to secure deposits.

The estimate assigns a further contraction of \$20,000,000 to represent "additional balances which will be retired by the country banks." Yet should these institutions draw upon the cities of redemption for the 5 per cent. which must be kept in Washington, and should the cities of redemption in their turn take their entire provision for circulation out of New York, the act will still leave all the classes far better off than it found them—that is, with much more money to employ. The country banks will gain a little more than thirty-five millions, the cities of redemption a little less than ten millions, and the New York banks very nearly four millions. Among them all, the total increase of usable money will amount to quite forty-nine million dollars. Let us carry our illustration a step beyond this. Even in the extreme supposition that New York will be called upon to supply the cities of redemption with greenbacks, not only for their deposits in the Treasury, but to replace the legal-tenders required from them by country banks, its available funds will not be noticeably diminished, although the expansion in the cities of redemption will be materially increased. A calculation made upon this basis shows that the country banks will gain, as before, something over thirty-five millions; and the cities of re-

demption almost exactly nineteen millions. The decrease in New York, on the other hand, will be barely three millions; and the net increase of usable money, among all the classes, will rise to fifty-one million dollars.

The estimate proceeds by putting down \$10,000,000 for "currency in transit to and from redemption centres." It might have guessed a hundred millions with as much reason, because the total amount of bills of other national banks held by all the banks in the United States, at the date of the last published return, was only \$20,636,358. A further contraction of \$20,000,000 is credited to the Treasury as an increase of its working balance, "necessarily made heavier because the reserve to be drawn upon in emergencies is abolished." We might reply that the reserve never existed outside the fancy of a foolish Secretary; for the last clause of the 6th Section of this act exposes the absurdity of the pretence that "retired and cancelled" greenbacks were intended to be a permanent resource. Congress, although it lacked bravery to blame a Cabinet officer, put its foot down very heavily upon Mr. Richardson's pet idea. We object, however, for a better reason. The "reserve" was never needed by legitimate fiscal demands. It was employed on one occasion to a small extent for political effect, and at another time more freely to relieve the money market, or rather to replace funds which had been used with that intention. But, as a provision exacted by the necessities of the Government, not a dollar of it did service—ever.

The currency now in the Treasury exceeds the sum held at the corresponding dates in 1871, 1872, and 1873, as well as the average amount on hand for either one, two, or three years back. Beyond dispute, the Secretary has the power to increase his balance materially. Such a course is unnecessary; it would be very unpopular with men whose clamor is quite certain to get a hearing, it would defy alike the spirit of the law and the policy of Congress, and that he will adopt it any one who chooses may contend.

To the items of contraction we have noticed the estimate adds \$50,000,000 for "national-bank circulation likely to be retired in excess of the legalized new issue." This is explained by the statement that the profit has been so reduced through charges of redemption as to create "a strong tendency among the banks to abandon their circulation, while they can avail themselves of the present high prices for Government bonds." We have already shown how the abolition of the reserve offsets the cost of redemption, and leaves circulation at least as profitable as before; as to the second point, the current quotations for United States securities are not higher than usual. They rule indeed rather under than above the average. Besides, Government bonds move with the premium on gold. Their holders are justified in parting with them only when gold is a good short sale. We submit, therefore, in view of recent events, that the premium upon the precious metals will not be destroyed suddenly or even soon. The banks which retire circulation will only increase the income of institutions which retain it. The net withdrawal in excess of the additional notes taken up by new banks ought not to be large, even on the unnatural money market now existing. There is, however, fair ground about this point for an honest difference of opinion. We think that the contraction caused by this withdrawal will be inconsiderable and of brief duration. The reasons which we have given for holding this view appear strong enough to justify us in expecting that the future will confirm it.

MACMAHON AND THE ASSEMBLY.

THE situation in France has passed into a new stage, by the announcement of Marshal MacMahon that he will under no circumstances surrender his power until the end of his term of seven years. He has made this announcement distinctly in a message to the Assembly. He has made it no less distinctly, and in fact somewhat menacingly, in his general order to the army at the close of the late review. This shows a monarchical restoration to be impossible at present, and very unlikely in the future, so far as the

Comte de Chambord is concerned. All delay tells against him, or would tell against him if his own utterances had not made his case hopeless. It is by no means so troublesome to the Bonapartists, who really are not yet ready for action, owing to the youth of their candidate and the nearness of their disasters. It would be perfectly satisfactory to the Republicans if they could get the Republic formally proclaimed or a republican constitution adopted, and if they could get rid of their vague fears that the Marshal may yet be guilty of some stroke in the monarchical interest. They are accordingly fighting either for a dissolution of the Assembly or the adoption of a republican constitution. The obstacles to the dissolution of the Assembly seem trifling, but they are in reality strong. A parliamentary body armed with sovereign power, and which nobody has any authority to dissolve, is of course something anomalous. Any such body is very unwilling to put an end to its own existence. The only body like the French Assembly of which we have any knowledge was the Long Parliament, and it sat until it became an object of contempt, and would have sat longer if the army had not turned it out of doors. Members of such an assembly naturally love power, and their numbers make them insensible to public opinion, particularly when they know that their chances of re-election are small. Moreover, when they are paid, as they are in France, and a large number of them are needy men, self-interest in its lowest and coarsest form comes to the support of the ordinary fondness for office. A great many of the most public-spirited and enlightened men in the French Assembly, too, while fully sensible of the political impropriety of this prolonged hold on power, are afraid to dissolve without having created any regular machinery of government. To dissolve, not knowing what is to follow, would seem imprudence in any country. In a country like France, in which, as has been said, the unforeseen is always the most likely to happen, it seems to many of the soundest heads sheer madness. The prophets of the Left are of course ready to guarantee the return of a patriotic and enlightened Republican majority; but then if these gentlemen proved mistaken, it would not be for the first time, and a mistake might prove irretrievable. Those who talk most glibly about the hold of the Republic just now on the public mind in France know well enough that the public mind is fickle, self-distrustful, and given to panics. If the Assembly were to dissolve to-morrow, and disorders of a serious character occurred anywhere during the interregnum, there would be no telling what kind of a majority would be sent up. It might be Republican, but it might and probably would be something else—say Bonapartist. As long as no form of government has been established, experiments constantly suggest themselves to terrified voters. A more striking illustration of the folly of looking for devotion on the part of the French public to any particular system of government under trying circumstances than was afforded by the resurrection of the Legitimists in 1871, could hardly be desired. Therefore, the Moderates in the Assembly shrink from dissolving when dissolution will leave nothing standing but MacMahon and the army.

Besides, from the radical difference of opinion in the Assembly as to what form of government ought to be set up, the Conservative Republicans, no less than the Monarchists, dread a republic with one Chamber only. The objections to it to be found in French history and French character are too numerous to mention. Everybody acknowledges their existence and their force. But there is no general agreement as to the mode of creating a Second Chamber. The country has been swept clean of all sources of political strength except popular election and the control of the army. There is no aristocracy with roots in the soil or in popular affection or respect. There are no organizations like the States in this country, with sufficient vitality and independence to enable them to create a strong senate. A senate elected by the popular vote would not differ materially in character and tone from the lower chamber, and would therefore have little or no value as a break on popular impetuosity or as a reviser of hasty popular decisions. An upper house, nominated by the executive, like the old Chamber of Peers or the Bonapartist Senate, has been proved to be weak and cen-

temptible. There are countries in which such a body might have a chance of success. In France, in which a lampooner like Rochefort may rise in six months through successful buffoonery into the rank of a statesman, no care in the selection could give it permanence or strength.

It will thus be seen that the situation is one full of difficulties, before which the most enlightened and patriotic men may well hesitate, and which the selfish and dishonest are only too glad to parade as an excuse for doing nothing. We said some weeks ago that the result of the embroglio would probably depend in a great degree on Marshal MacMahon. He may in his present position, and with the view he takes of his position, do France the greatest service which has been rendered her since Henri Quatre—a service which many great Frenchmen have dreamed of rendering her, but the opportunity for which a wayward fate has always denied. Of course, we assume that he is honest, and think we may do so with confidence. That service consists in the preservation of perfect order with a strong military hand, which all sects and parties know to be irresistible and not to be trifled with, while leaving discussion in the press moderately free, and protecting an Assembly, legal in its origin, in the full exercise of the right of legislation and debate. In other words, we believe the state of things which we are now witnessing in France, with all its absurdities and disappointments, may prove, if it can only be made to last a little longer, the most healthy and promising which the country has passed through since the States-General of 1562 at Orléans. It must be borne in mind, when we are disposed to grow impatient over the hesitation of the Assembly, that every one of the ten governments which have been set up in France since the first overthrow of the monarchy, has been the result of revolutionary violence, and has been contrived and proclaimed at two or three hours' notice, either by a military usurper or by a mob in the streets, and without the consent or approval of the nation at large. The consequence is that the very notion of a government as the product of deliberation, or of a balancing of reasons, or of any peaceful trial of strength between parties, in the forum of debate or at the polls, has faded from the popular mind. The people have come to expect that, as a matter of course, the sovereignty will pass from hand to hand by armed assaults or ambuscades; and therefore they look on all agitation, in one sense of the word, and on all speeches on political questions, as simply a prelude to civil war. When Gambetta goes down into the provinces at this hour, and delivers a harangue, the whole country listens with dread, and the Government gets its forces ready for the fray, and the Assembly prepares for coercive legislation. This state of feeling it is which accounts for the rise of a charlatan like Rochefort into the rank of a political personage. In a country in which great political changes were affected by persuasion, he would have remained all his life an obscure and rattlebrained Bohemian, with the reputation of a good café joker. But his literary powers made him capable, in Paris, of raising large mobs in the streets, and thus gave him a political future and opened to him a political career.

Now, MacMahon is at this moment giving France for the first time since the Revolution an opportunity of debating quietly the principles of government without fear as to the result. He is giving all the pent-up venom of parties the means of venting itself in the Assembly and the newspapers, in words which everybody knows will not lead to anything serious. The Legitimists have had their full say for the first time since 1830, and have tried all their arts and all their arguments, and have ended by being ridiculous. The Bonapartists, too, have the fullest opportunity of explaining their past misfortunes, and making promises for the future, and threatening their enemies. Lastly, the Republicans have the fairest field they have ever had for winning France over to their views. They have an able body of spokesmen in the Assembly, and a powerful representation in the press, and all the prestige which comes from the absence of a monarch. The country in the meantime is able to listen, to mark, and to learn, without trepidation or anxiety. It

grows accustomed to the serious and peaceful strife of parties, and perceives that a regular government may be, and probably will be, now set up, after full deliberation and by a legal and orderly process. In the meantime, what the Marshal says to the Assembly is substantially this: "Gentlemen, the kind of government you give France is no affair of mine. Work it out for yourselves. You can dissolve to-morrow and order a new election, or sit on for seven years, or you can draw up a constitution and submit it to the popular vote, or adopt it yourselves without submitting it to the popular vote, and you may pass any laws or pursue any policy of peace or war you may see fit. None of this is my affair. My business is to see that for seven years to come there is no rioting, or revolting, or 'manifesting' in France; that the laws, such as they are, are faithfully executed; and that any decision which may be reached touching the constitution of the country, is reached by peaceful means. When you fixed seven years as the period during which I was to discharge these functions, you were doubtless of opinion that it would take that length of time for society to settle down, after the recent frightful calamities and changes, into peaceful channels. I entirely agree with you. I am your servant in the meantime, but your servant for a fixed term, and I mean to discharge the duties of the place honestly, and to give France, if possible, her first experience of the foundation of a government without crime or bloodshed."

THE TRIAL BY NEWSPAPER.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Evening Post* complained bitterly the other day, in the interest of domestic decency, of the publication of the "statements" and counter-statements of the parties to the enquiry now pending in Brooklyn by the morning papers. But it is hard to see what the papers could do except what they have done. It appeared tolerably plain, from the moment Mr. Tilton published his first letter, that the whole affair would very soon be made the subject of an appeal to the public. The result was made certain by the mode in which Mr. Beecher applied for an investigation. A committee nominated by him, and composed of his own personal friends and members of his congregation, although it might satisfy the church over which he presides, was sure not to satisfy either his opponents or the public. It was inevitable that at some stage in the enquiry Tilton or his friends would, by hook or by crook, carry their case before the world outside, and this once done, the committee lost all judicial character, and became a mere instrument, and a very defective one, for taking evidence. No one will now care what its finding is, or whether it comes to any conclusion or not. The trial is transferred to a different forum. This forum consists of the newspapers and their readers, and a more unsatisfactory one, in some respects, there could hardly be, but it is the one before which a man in Mr. Beecher's position must plead, sooner or later, to any charge brought against him. From this neither civil nor ecclesiastical courts can save him. When the community exalts a man as it has exalted Mr. Beecher, it insists on deciding in the last resort whether its confidence has been misplaced. It may be said that this is one of the penalties of influence and celebrity, but it is also one of their conditions, and one that is familiar to everybody who wields the power given him by enormous popularity. It is in some respects an awful mode of trial, one by which the strongest nerves might well be shaken. The court has no rules of evidence. Before it nothing is frivolous or irrelevant or untrustworthy. It puts rumors, suggestions, theories, suspicions, reminiscences, hints, the idle gossip of the sidewalk, and the solemn asseverations of the eye-witness on about the same level. Everything goes to the jury in one dreadful jumble, and goes piecemeal, day by day, as it comes in, without arrangement or summing up. There is not a house in the country in which the defendant is not, weak after week, put on his trial, and in every one of them on a different indictment and with different testimony; and the result he never wholly knows, as the verdict is never formulated and uttered. Moreover, it would be a great mistake to suppose that even the larger part of this tribunal is animated by anything that can be called a judicial spirit. It is impossible not to be struck by the tenderness with which Mr. Beecher's case has been approached, by the reluctance displayed on almost all sides to believe ill of him, by the eager hopefulness with which his defence has been listened to, and by the height and breadth of the favorable presumptions by which he has been surrounded. It is true that much of these presumptions rests on forty years of unblemished character, but much, too, is supplied by popular indulgence for a man whom the country has greatly trusted and greatly loved. On the other hand, however, a vast amount of the interest taken in

the case springs from motives with which neither love of him nor love of justice has anything to do. Thousands on thousands gloat over the story simply because it is scandalous; thousands more because the standard set up by such a man as Beecher seems a constant condemnation of their own ways and aims. The overthrow of a great moralist is always a triumph for those who deny that there is any morality but what each man manufactures for himself. It acts both as a justification and encouragement to them. "A bad year for the righteous," as Butler said, is a good year for those who make no pretence to righteousness. It raises them in their own estimation, puts an end to some prickings of conscience, and opens up new fields of activity. There is no rascal in the country to-day who is not openly or secretly hoping that Beecher may not succeed in extricating himself from the net in which he is now entangled. And then there are thousands of men who are really not rascals, and pass as very respectable, to whom the downfall of anything great or respectable in human society is somehow a satisfaction, though they do not well know why, and are often ashamed even to confess it to themselves. The source of this feeling is one of those mysteries of human nature on which neither the naturalists nor the theologians have thrown much light, and it is one which nobody who wishes to think well of his kind likes to explore. To say that it is a form of envy is simply to name without explaining it. Of its wide diffusion, of its powerful influence in our social life, one knows comparatively little until one witnesses the progress of a scandal such as that which is to-day the talk of the country. It is intensified towards religious people by the necessary ostentation of their professions, and by their tendency to treat as mere temporary lapses from virtue, which can be atoned for and reformed by the technical process of repentance, things which men of the world, sometimes rightly and sometimes wrongly, set down as irremediable defects of character.

There is, however, a far worse source of interest in the "Tilton-Beecher Scandal" than any we have enumerated, and one which much more clearly reveals the barbarian strain in our blood. Trial by newspaper has certain spectacular attractions to which no other process can lay claim. In proceedings, however tragic, before courts of law, the parties are represented by professional advocates, who, even if they lay aside the conventional decorum of their callings and attempt a display of pathos, can hardly rouse the feelings of the audience. The retainer takes the point from their weapons, and gives a greenroom air to their tears and supplications. The real play of passion nowhere appears. The plaintiff and defendant are silent spectators of the game of skill and ingenuity on which their fame or fortune is staked. When they appeal to the public, however, especially in what may be called capital cases, the controversy has all the horrible interest of a conflict in the arena. Surely, no scene in the amphitheatre was ever more shocking than the assault on each other in which Tilton and his wife have been engaged in the newspapers during the past week. His production of her letters, written in moments of happy and confiding if somewhat effusive tenderness, to justify his desperate attack on her reputation, and her bitter and incoherent imputation to him of all base and malignant passions, of meanness, falsehood, treachery, of envy, hatred, and malice—and all this under the eyes of millions of spectators, to whom the mutual rage and destruction of this unhappy couple gave but a keener relish for their breakfasts—what is there so horrible as this in the *spectacula* or the bull-fights? Is it not somewhat disgraceful to our civilization that such quarrels should have to be fought out in this way, that we should have to protect domestic happiness and purity by inviting the whole world to see the Furies tearing a household to pieces?

The trial of certain classes of cases by the newspapers, if inevitable, however, furnishes no excuse for spreading a "scandal" over a wider area and forcing it more persistently on the public attention than the circumstances absolutely require, and we think there are numerous signs that we are to be treated to more of this Brooklyn affair than is good for either our morals or our manners. We are sure that the bulk of intelligent and decent people greatly deplore the necessity of surrendering to it as much space and attention in the newspapers as it has already received. It is a most unsavory subject, and the more it is discussed and turned over, the less profitable all discussion of it seems to be. We now beg to remind the editors of the daily papers that their sole justification for serving us up every day such a quantity of unwholesome gossip and speculation lies in the fact that the person whose reputation is assailed in it is a man of great prominence and respectability. It is only in so far as it concerns Mr. Beecher that this wretched business has any legitimate claim on the public attention. We protest, therefore, most earnestly against the execution of the plan which seems to be entertained in some quarters of favoring us with what they call "further exposures," in the shape of additional information about Mr. Tilton's family life and his relations with his wife and with other women. With these things the public has nothing to do, and we

trust the press will not connive at any further investigation of them. It can serve no purpose beyond deepening the flood of indecency which is already flowing over the country. The public is not sufficiently interested in Mr. Tilton, and he does not occupy, and never has occupied, a sufficiently prominent place in the community, to entitle him to this species of notoriety. His domestic history is not a public concern. It is plain that it has been unhappy to the last degree, and that is all we wish or need to know about it. We must remind Mr. Beecher's friends, too, in all kindness, of the fact which they seem disposed to forget, that attacks on Mr. Tilton's reputation cannot possibly help Mr. Beecher's case as it now stands. It might be useful to prove him a bad husband and father if the proceedings now pending were an action for damages or a suit for a divorce in a court of law. But they are neither the one nor the other. The only result of proving Mr. Tilton's baseness, under present circumstances, would be either to deprive him of public sympathy or to invalidate his testimony. But the question before the public is not whether Mr. Tilton is entitled to sympathy; it is whether Mr. Beecher has been guilty of certain offences; and the case against him does not rest on Mr. Tilton's testimony simply. If it did, it would have been closed long ago. It rests on certain letters purporting to be written by Mr. Beecher himself, of which he does not deny the genuineness. All that the community now wishes to ascertain is how he explains these letters. It cares nothing and wants to know nothing about Tilton's morals or religious opinions, or about his relations with "advanced thinkers" of the female sex.

The case was brought on the very first day within a very narrow compass—much narrower than Mr. Beecher himself seemed to perceive when he wrote his statement. Had he thoroughly comprehended the situation, he would have saved himself the trouble of traversing Tilton's naked assertions, and have addressed himself at once to the task of explaining the circumstances under which he wrote the letters embodied in Tilton's complaint. We trust he will now do this, and that in the meantime his friends and champions will keep silent with regard to everything which does not touch this point, and we think their duty in this respect includes a decent reserve in the matter of denouncing Tilton. If Mr. Beecher's explanation is found sufficient, as we must all hope it will be, the whole matter can properly be dropped as an evil dream.

Correspondence.

SOME EFFECTS OF OUR CURRENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your remarks upon American travel in Europe, you have not touched upon one consideration which, as it will help to explain several other phenomena, ought not to be overlooked.

Ever since the war closed, the great effort of the Treasury and the people has been to depress the price of gold. Not only has the former sold all its receipts from customs, but it has actually diminished its resources, holding a surplus above liabilities of only ten millions (against thirty-five millions in 1869), with a total of seventy-four millions (against one hundred and ten millions at the earlier date). Add to this the enormous force of the Gold Clearing-House, through which transactions of a hundred millions in a single day are often settled with three or four millions of actual gold, thus multiplying the apparent supply to the full extent of the larger amount. This artificial depression would long since have been corrected by foreign export, had it not met a counter-current in the apparently inexhaustible demand for our securities—good, bad, or indifferent—abroad.

Now let us suppose that while these combined forces have kept gold at 110 to 120, the real depreciation of our currency, as measured by general prices, is 150; in other words, that the price of gold, as frequently happens with coffee, wool, sugar, or any other article, is below the average level. Is it not evident that much more may be had for the same money by turning it into gold and spending it in Europe, than by spending it in currency here? And with a difference like this, amounting to one-fifth, extended over several years, is it not inevitable that the movement should assume vast proportions? It is, of course, a matter of guesswork, but, after talking with many persons, I am inclined to place the average of Americans in Europe at not less than 50,000, and allowing them an amount of \$2,000 apiece, which is certainly not excessive, we should have one hundred millions as the yearly drain upon us from this cause.

That this idea may not appear wholly fanciful, let us take another item. The complaints of the Western farmers have arisen within a few years. Doubtless over-production has much to do with them, but it is not the only cause. It has been too often remarked to need explanation, that the price

of the whole grain crop is determined by the exported portion. Of course the gold price is regulated by the foreign markets, but the farmer has nothing to do with gold. He gets his pay in currency, and his expenses of labor, supplies, and transportation are also in currency. Now if the gold price of his crop brings but 120 or less, while his expenses are on a scale of 150, it is manifest that the farmer will earn nothing, even though the railroads are doing business at a loss.

Once more, Hon. David A. Wells, in one of his revenue reports, declares with a sort of despairing wonder: "It thus appears that notwithstanding an average tariff of 40 per cent., there is hardly an article which the United States cannot import cheaper than they can produce." This apparent paradox becomes the simplest of all propositions if we suppose that the importer gets 150 for his goods, and buys his gold for remittance at 110 to 120.

Looking at the subject from another point of view, we find it admitted that, since the war closed, the United States have run up a debt in Europe to an amount of 1,500 millions. But except during the panic last fall we have not only imported no gold, but we have shipped from thirty to sixty millions a year. And that this is not wholly the surplus produce of our mines is shown by the steady diminution of the only visible and it is to be feared the only real stock of gold in the country, that in the Treasury.

While the President was imbibing the views of Senator Jones of Nevada, it is a pity he did not include that portion which involves an accumulation of gold and a stoppage of sales by the Treasury. The Bank of France, with five hundred millions of notes, holds two hundred and fifty millions of gold, and yet they hesitate to resume, and keep their rate of interest higher than any other large market in Europe. We have seven hundred and thirty millions of notes afloat, besides six hundred millions of bank-deposit currency, while the Treasury holds but seventy-five millions of gold.

Of course the price of gold would advance, but, as Senator Jones says, that would not be an unmixed evil. In the first place, Americans, instead of making the name a by-word in Europe, would come home and spend their incomes here. Next, the agricultural interest would at once revive, and put an end to the dangerous conflict between the farmers and the railroads. Thirdly, our manufactures, which, while they have to bear the odium of an excessive tariff, get no benefit from it, and are languishing under foreign competition, would also revive. Last, but by no means least, it would furnish the only effective answer to the inflationists. The strongest argument of Senator Morton and his coadjutors in favor of more currency rests on the decline of gold last fall to 106½. With gold at 140, the country would wake up to the true state of the case, and Congress would be compelled to deal with the real difficulty, the condition of the currency, the evil effects of which are now artificially concealed. G. B.

Boston, July 20, 1874.

THE COLLEGE RACES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The following paragraph appeared in the *Tribune's* account of the assemblage at the depot on Monday to welcome the Columbia crew:

"Noticeable among those gathered was the venerable form of President Barnard, who wore a huge blue and white rosette with ribbons attached, and the pride which glistened in his eyes and expressed itself even through his spectacles bedewed with moisture, told how deeply he felt the victory which had been won by the Columbia crew. Among others present were Prof. George Naire and lady, Dr. Anderson, the Rev. Drs. Buell and Cornwall. Among them was Prof. Van Amringe, commodore of the boat-club, who stepped on the rear platform of one of the cars and made a speech to the assembled throng, telling them that the crew found themselves unable to come down from Saratoga, but that they would be in the city with their boats to-day. During the delivery of his remarks he was repeatedly cheered, and at their conclusion he was lifted upon the shoulders of friends and carried out of the depot."

Tuesday afternoon, President Barnard, in addressing the crew from the portico of the college, said that he had favored boating from the start, that the crew had done more to spread the reputation of the college than anybody else had done since its foundation, and that if anything was wanted from the board of trustees to further boating interests the students need only ask for it.

These passages have been quoted as illustrative of the relations between the authorities and the students.

Now for some more facts.

The relations between faculty and students are less intimate at Harvard than at Columbia, and still less at Yale than at either.

Neither Harvard nor Yale won the race.

Harvard's behavior at the race is reported to have been discreditable. Yale's is reported to have been more so.

All these facts taken together suggest the following conundrums:

I. Would the chances of the two large universities have been better if

their boating interests had been encouraged by their trustees, and if they had had the sympathy and practical co-operation of members of their faculties?

II. Is not the advertising which victory in a boat-race gives a college worth the attention of its authorities?

III. If there were at Yale and elsewhere that intimacy between the faculty and students whose absence has lately been so bitterly complained of by "Young Yale," is it likely that the influence of the older men would infuse into the students a spirit of justice and dignity that would make impossible such disgraceful occurrences as those which have just accompanied the defeat of Yale and Harvard?—Your obedient servant,

A GRADUATE OF YALE AND COLUMBIA.

New York, July 21, 1874.

[Some of our correspondent's "conundrums" open questions so wide that we do not know how to answer them. Upon one point, however, we wish to say something, because a great deal of confusion has been thrown around it; some injustice has thereby been done not only to the crews of eight colleges present at the finish raft on the day of the race, but also to the public; and a certain well-earned award of praise has been with less than fairness withheld from one particular crew. This crew to which we refer as having in one respect earned more praise than it has yet received is the Harvard, of whose conduct equally with that of Yale our correspondent speaks as "disgraceful." What may have been the conduct of the two on the water when the foul took place, we cannot at all say. Few but those immediately concerned saw it, and of those perhaps not one saw it well. The referee himself has not been able to give an opinion which he can make boating men accept as wholly right, or even to the extent of making them regard Yale as more blameworthy than Harvard, which he asserts in so many words. The *Spirit of the Times* of July 25 may be referred to for an examination of his rulings, more learned than we can pretend to offer and bearing marks of care and impartiality. But as we say, with this we have nothing to do. If the referee's judgment is set down as faulty by those best placed to see and best fitted to pass upon it, we may readily decide how to deal with the heaps of evidence furnished by men like a *Herald* correspondent, who reported in his journal on the 20th that "it was thought in Saratoga that Yale would never row Harvard again, as it was believed there that Harvard had sold out to New York city." It is enough to say that little can now be known about the trouble on the water, as it is excessively unlikely that the crews themselves will ever be submitted to the cross-examination of experts.

But at the raft at Moon's there was no doubt about the disgracefulness of the behavior of one of the crews, or at least of one of its members. Speaking roughly, one crew, or part of it, applied to the other an epithet of the grossest and most offensive kind, and challenged them to go ashore and fight, and these sat by in silence and self-control, and let the others talk. All this is matter of general admission; and what it says for the two crews is, in plain language, that the members of the one behaved in a disgraceful manner, and the others behaved as they should, and, considering their provocation, deserved commendation and should have it. "Equally to blame" is not in this case a verdict that ought to satisfy anybody. Not to dwell too much on this hot and blackguard language, we may say that we think it ought to be construed against the Yale captain that, as he himself reports, he turned to the rival boat when he drew up even with it and went beyond it, and said to the stroke, "Dana, you can't win this race; you haven't got the stuff." This is the language of a ruffianly waterman, not of a gentleman amateur, and is prophetic of what happened afterwards at Moon's.—ED. NATION.]

Notes.

THE late Rev. Francis Mason, D.D., who died at Rangoon in March of the present year, was for forty-four years one of the foreign missionaries of the American Baptist Union. In 1869, he prepared a sketch of his career, which had been remarkable in many ways, but saw fit in publishing it to

give it the ambiguous title, 'Story of a Workingman's Life.' Of this interesting and instructive work a new edition is now announced by Mr. Albert Mason, who states that it will be brought down to the date of his father's death by Prof. W. C. Wilkinson, and, in addition to the woodcuts of the original edition, will be embellished by a steel portrait of the learned and lamented author. The title will properly be changed to 'Autobiography, etc.'—Part 20 of Stieler's 'Hand-Atlas' (New York: L. W. Schmidt) contains a general map of the United States and of Mexico, and two maps of Upper and Lower Italy, with several supplementary maps of particular localities on an enlarged scale.—Our recent reference to an error in the English translation of Mommsen's 'History of Rome,' by which the sense of a passage in Caesar was perverted, leads a correspondent to point out one in Merivale's 'History of the Romans' (Vol. I, p. 256). This author states one of the requirements which Caesar (B. G. i. 35) urged upon Ariovistus to have been "to restore their hostages to the Aedui and Sequani," whereas the demand was that the German chieftain should return to the Aedui such of their hostages as were in his keeping, and permit the Sequani (nominally his allies but really his subjects) to do the same. The error is a very obvious as well as a very important one, and may have been pointed out before.—A bird's-eye view of the Mill River Valley, and a map of the stream from Williamsburg to its junction with the Connecticut, are to be found in the last edition of Bart's 'Guide to the White Mountains and the River Saguenay' (Springfield, Mass.)—The *Historical and Genealogical Register* (Boston) for July publishes a list of some of the officers in the American army near Boston in June, 1775. It was first printed about fifty years ago in a New York paper, and purported to be part of a letter from Judge William Browne (afterwards Governor of the Bermudas) to a fellow-loyalist who had preceded him to England. The same number contains, with a great variety of interesting matter, a biographical sketch and an excellent steel portrait of the late William Whiting.—Mr. John Russell Bartlett contributes to the Providence *Journal* of July 22 a readable account of the contents of the valuable library of the late John Carter Brown, which is superlatively rich, as all scholars know, in works relating to the early history of America published before the year 1800, as well as in many other lines. Mr. Bartlett made a catalogue of this library, which was printed in 1865-71, but the edition consisted of only fifty copies. He states that the collection of *Americana* remains in the possession of Mr. Brown's family, and is to be carried forward in accordance with the liberal policy of its late owner.—The rules governing the Centennial Exhibition may now be obtained by those interested of the Director-General, Mr. A. T. Goshorn, at Philadelphia.

—We have, in common with several other journals, received a printed communication from Miss Harriet Hosmer, dated at Rome, June 29. It is much too long for the space at our command. Miss Hosmer, who was, with several other American artists, made the object of Mr. S. W. Healy's imputations of professional dishonesty and want of originality, replies by opposing to him the testimony of the only witness cited in her case. The rest of her letter is devoted to informing the public of the mode by which statues are evolved from the clay and the marble, and of the universal practice of employing assistants for the purely mechanical part; to an exposition of the division of American artists in Rome into two cliques, who hold no intercourse with each other, and to one of which Mr. Healy is alleged to belong, so that it was foreordained whom he should select for his attacks; and to expressing regret that an American could be engaged in smirching the reputation of his own countrymen abroad.

—The advance sheets with which we have been favored have already given us occasion to describe the general character of the 'Statistical Atlas of the United States' which, by special authorization of Congress, has been prepared by Gen. Francis A. Walker, late Superintendent of the Ninth Census. We are now glad to chronicle the appearance of Part III.—Vital Statistics, and the promise of the speedy appearance of Parts II. and I. The letterpress, not included in the original appropriation, and only provided for in June, will be somewhat delayed, but may be looked for in September at furthest. "Part I," says the compiler's announcement, "will consist of maps illustrative of the physical features of the United States, embracing its river systems and forest growths, its geology, hypsometry, and meteorology. This part is almost wholly made up of contributions from eminent men of science, and from some of the scientific services of the U. S. Government. Part II. will consist of maps and charts illustrative of the growth of population from 1790 to 1870, of the constituent elements of the present population, and of the social and miscellaneous statistics of the census, embracing the subjects of wealth, debt and taxation, illiteracy, church accommodation, the occupations of the people, principal crops, etc." Part III. embraces the maps and charts numbered 37-54. Of the former there are six, all colored

on the same base-map—the United States east of the 103th meridian. They show the predominating sex; the birth-rate; and four classes of deaths, viz., from consumption, malarial diseases, intestinal disorders, and enteric, cerebro-spinal, and typhus fevers. In each case, five tints of intensity are used, and the whole story is revealed at a glance—we mean the main story; the maps afford ample room for study. The artistic execution of them merits hearty praise in passing; it fully maintains the high standard of work to which the establishment of Mr. Julius Bien has accustomed us. Less perspicuous at first, and less attractive, are the twelve charts of statistical delineation, of which Mr. Wines, the inventor, has given some account in our columns. These, too, however, have an almost unlimited capacity for being profitably studied. Two plates are devoted to each of the topics—blindness, deaf-mutism, insanity, and idiocy; and in all the eight there is a comparison of the census returns of 1870 and 1860. There remain charts of the population of the United States—aggregate and by States—showing the proportion of the sexes at various ages (by decades) and the preponderance; the native and foreign population—both sexes—by States and Territories; deaths (by decades) for the whole country and again by States, and according to certain groups of diseases and special diseases—both sexes; and finally, the same statistics for each month in the year. The last two are of extreme interest. For instance, it is plain from these representations that June, if not the healthiest month in the year for all the States, still almost without exception forms a mean term between the mortality of the first and the last half of the year; the mortality may be less in some one of the succeeding months, but it is also sure to be greater. It also appears that, notably for pneumonia and consumption, diseases of the respiratory system prove more fatal in the first than in the last half of the year. But we have no space for further examples. We congratulate the country on the success of General Walker's work, the value of which will grow with time, and we hope that the Secretary of the Interior, on whom the distribution of the work devolves by act of Congress, will see that the Atlas is judiciously placed, subject to the limitations of the edition, in all the principal libraries and the chief institutions of learning in the land.

—The *American Naturalist* for July proposes the organization of a new department of Government, the Science Department, with appropriate bureaus. These, so far as they already exist, would mostly be taken from the heterogeneous Interior Department, but the Navy would part with its Observatory, the Treasury with the Coast Survey, the War Department with the Signal Service; and under this head would be grouped the bureaus of Agriculture and of Education, the Smithsonian Institution, etc., etc. It is clear that a very respectable portfolio could be created out of these elements alone, and, well administered, might be conducive to greater economy and efficiency in the several branches, besides leading to more frequent co-operation between the National Government and the States, as (to cite the latest instance) in the standing offer of assistance from the Coast Survey to any State desirous of undertaking its own survey. Nor do we suppose it would be impossible to find a chief executive officer with the requisite capacity for directing in the best manner the scientific energies of the Department. It is questionable, however, whether, in the low state of our civil service, the military and naval scientific bureaus would not feel themselves degraded by the transfer, and whether after all they would make up in other ways for the loss of the discipline to which they are now more or less subject. Perhaps, too, it is doubtful if Congress would be as liberal to the Department as it now is to the scattered bureaus, the items of scientific expenditure being concealed in the appropriations for the general expenses of each department. While it must be conceded that our Government need fear comparison with no other in its outlays in behalf of science, it is equally true, if not equally notorious, that the coveted appropriations for special work, like the national surveys, are usually obtained by quiet and almost secret legislation; and that science cannot come before Congress as frankly with its petitions as commerce and manufactures do. Nevertheless, we think Congress would not greatly object to the new Department, provided the scheme did not contemplate the creation of many new offices, and provided there was no opposition to it from the bureaus and departments to be affected by the change.

—A miscellaneous list of topics, each worth a word of comment, doubtless suggested itself to many observers of the regatta at Saratoga. One of the lesser matters was that of colors. Few of the colleges can be said to have made a very good choice if we think of the object for which after all the choice was for the most part made—the object, namely, of distinguishing a given crew by its head-handkerchiefs. Harvard's magenta is distinguishable both by daylight and in such a semi-twilight as that in which the race was finished at Springfield last year. But a good light is required to distin-

guish at a little distance the deep blue of Yale from the royal purple of Williams, or either of them from the black heads of bareheaded oarsmen. Princeton selected for her first appearance an admirable color, the orange, to which the birth and title of Nassau Hall give it a show of right. But although this very suitable and eye-taking color made itself most conspicuous in the little bannerol which showed what part of the collegians' grand stand was devoted to the use of the Princeton undergraduates, the men in the boat rejected it for white and their friends ashore for some variety of yellow, which was of a London-fog color or next to invisible. Wesleyan can hardly be said to have a color, and in a race where any crew or part of a crew wears white caps, the Wesleyan lavender may well be confounded with the white. Dartmouth's grass-green is excellent in the sun; but in the fading of the light becomes black like Williams's purple and Yale's blue.—A marked feature of the race last year was the fulness of information given by the Springfield papers. The press of that city is one of so great enterprise and skill that to ask the press of a country town like Saratoga to compete with it in most respects would be foolish; but certainly the Saratoga press might have done more than it did in the way of collecting and collating full information about the crews and their prospects and doings, and would thus have put many people under obligations. We do not think that it contained so much as a directory from which one could learn the whereabouts of personages so important as Mr. Commodore Brady and Mr. John P. Conkling.—There was pressing need of a central office of information of all kinds pertaining to the regatta, and the establishment of such an office would probably lead to the establishment of a centre of authority, consisting if possible of one man whose word should be final on as many subjects as his administrative talent will permit him to take charge of. Such an authority could be held responsible for the signal-men, for instance, and might not place at the finish an incompetent who lost his head as the boats went over the line, and dropped his flag in token that one had crossed when four had already been home many seconds. So, too, he could be held responsible for the time-keepers and starters, and probably would not select men who for some reason or another would see fit to resign at the very last moment. Probably he might be depended on to do what forty men together never could be depended on for, and would contrive some way of signalling to a crowd of twenty thousand persons that they need not wait two hours longer for the race, as it would not come off that afternoon. Such an authority, advised by agents of the colleges, but unhampered by committees of collegians armed with powers which they cannot very discreetly use, might make a regatta a far pleasanter affair than it usually is. He would have to be a man of sense, and of some knowledge of boating, and he would have to be paid for his services; but he would do the work which citizen committees and collegian committees have never done well, nor so much as half-done since regattas became affairs of so large a size.—Impropriety of conduct on the part of undergraduates at Saratoga there was almost none so far as we have seen or heard, nor was there any on the part of other visitors. Everything was quiet and orderly, except the natural jubulations of the victors and their friends and some small trifle of hustling, hardly worth mention, which took place on one occasion when friends of two of the rival crews met in a hotel corridor or office-hall. In old times, when but two crews contended, the victorious one, or rather its friends, made it a point to turn things upside down, partly out of joy, partly to show that the means of riot had not been cut off by the prohibitory ordinances of the town magistracy. But now too many colleges are represented, and too many men of more or less uncongenial sympathies look on, and public opinion thus reinforced is too strong for the *amour-propre* of any one college. This was the case in Springfield last year and again in Saratoga this year, and the improvement is a welcome one.—The complaints about carriages and carriage-hire are probably well founded. Saratoga is not a town large enough to furnish at short notice, or at long notice, vehicular accommodation for several thousands of newcomers, who wish to be carried through the dust four miles out and back within five or six hours. Too few trips could be made, and there were not carriages and wagons enough had there been an opportunity to make more.—As for the course, everybody's second thought seems to set it down as a very good one, all things considered, needing, however, for its improvement a power vested in the referee to order the race to take place on the given day any time after nine o'clock in the morning. But we may expect to hear New London spoken of; and Springfield still has its friends.

—The Massachusetts of tradition and history is to a great extent the geographical Massachusetts which lies to the east of Worcester, though there are wanting to Western Massachusetts and the Connecticut Valley neither the men nor the events which make history. As has long been known, a change is coming over the Massachusetts of the Boston and Charlestown and Plymouth and Salem end of the State, and Governor Winthrop, could he rise from the dead, would be disturbed, but on information and reflection

would not be surprised, at the aspect of General Butler's constituency. The foreigner possesses the land; and Winthrop's contemporary, Milton, would have spoken with still greater contempt of the current Boston Directory than of the Scottish surnames which the booksellers had made known to his London public:

"Colkitto or MacDonnel or Galasp,
Those rugged names,
That would have made Quintilian stare and gasp."

The Boston *Pilot* says that the Directory bristles with Celtic names, and that it must be startling to the Puritan to cast his eye along the sturdy columns of the O'Shaughnessys, O'Neills, and McNamaras. The *Pilot* thinks that at least one-half of the names in the volume are purely Celtic, counting for Celtic the Scotch names of course as well as the Irish. It appears that of all the Os and Macs, the O'Sullivans or Sullivans have the best of it, there being in all 914 of them enumerated, of whom 34 retain the O, the others having dropped it, if, as we suppose, they all had a right to bear it. The *Pilot* credits the Sullivans with old-fashioned families, and thinks that all the Sullivans, big and little, male and female, marching across the city on a picnic to Plymouth Rock, would make a pretty sight. "Shades of Cotton Mather," it says, "only think of it!" Close after the Sullivans comes the sept of the Murphys. These number 820, and it will be seen that were the latter, on their way to a picnic at Bunker Hill, to chance to meet the former on their way to Plymouth, there is no telling which would leave most wigs on the green. The O'Briens are 452; the McDonalds and McDonnells, 432; the McLoughlins, 304; the O'Neils, 233; the Fitzgeralds, 240; the Hoggans, 100; the Coughlins, 104; the Welchs, 370; the Flynns, 225; and there are smaller companies of the McGonagles McGuires, O'Connells, O'Keefes, O'Connors, O'Donnells, Sheehans, Flahertys, Foleys, Connollys, and many more.

—Dr. Hammond delivered an address on assuming the presidency of the Neurological Society, on the effects of alcohol on the nervous system, which is reported in the July number of the *Psychological and Medico-Legal Journal*. In the debate on the address which followed, Dr. Lente, Dr. Willard Parker, Dr. J. C. Peters, and Dr. Aymer, all well-known physicians, took part, but none of them dissented from his principal conclusions. These conclusions are drawn in the main from actual experiments made either on himself or on animals, some of which he exhibited to the audience. He believes that alcohol, though it has no constructive force, has conservative force; that if, for instance, a man is working with such degree of intensity that all the food he is able to procure or (which is the same thing) to digest does not prevent his weight diminishing—say one ounce a day—a moderate dose of alcohol will enable him to perform the same amount of work on the same quantity of food without loss of weight. From which it follows, as Dr. Hammond also proved by experiment, that a person in good health, whose food supplies all the waste caused by his labor, does not need alcohol, and his taking it will probably cause disturbances to the general health similar to those caused by overeating. This doctrine, of course, makes alcohol useful to persons whose digestion is too feeble to supply the amount of necessary repair to the tissues. He further finds that alcohol affects the system mainly through the nerves, and only secondarily, if at all, through the blood—a point which he proves by numerous interesting experiments. Any amount of alcohol which does not prevent waste, and thus take the place of food to a certain extent, may be pronounced excessive, but what is excess in any individual case he declares that no one can tell *à priori*—a single glass of wine may be excess for some "individuals, while to others it fills a rôle that nothing else can fill." He adds:

"With reference to the moderate use of alcoholic liquors, it must be remembered that we are not living in a state of nature. We are all more or less overworked; we all have anxieties and sorrows and misfortunes, which gradually in some cases, suddenly in others, wear away our minds and our bodies. We have honors to achieve, learning to acquire, and, perhaps, wealth to obtain. Honors and learning and wealth are rarely got honestly without hard work, and hard work exhausts all the tissues of the body, especially those of the nervous system. Now, when a man finds that the wear and tear of his mind and body are lessened by a glass or two of wine at his dinner, why should he not take them? The answer may be, because he sets a bad example to his neighbor. But he does not. His example is a good one, for he uses in moderation and decorum one of those things which experience has taught him are beneficial to him. And why should he shorten his life for the purpose of affording an example to a man who probably would not heed it, and who, if he did, is of less value than himself to society?"

But if we cannot overcome the instinct [the love of stimulants and sedatives] by prohibitory laws, we can regulate it and keep its exercise within due bounds. My own opinion is, that the best way to do this is by discriminative legislation in favor of wines and malt beverages, and against spirituous liquors. I would make it difficult to get whiskey. I would provide that what was sold should be pure, and at the same time I would make it easy to procure light wines and beer. And I would likewise offer every encouragement to the growth of the vine and the hop. Experience has shown that total prohibition, while failing to a great extent in practice, drives

men and women to opium and Indian hemp, substances still more destructive to mind and body than alcohol."

—The erection at Bedford, England, of a statue to John Bunyan, has been the occasion of a good deal of essay-writing—some of it perfunctory and some of it not, but most of it at least decorously respectful to the genius of the author and to the fame and usefulness of his great work. Not all the comments were so, however; and much to be regretted as some of them are for their pettiness and malice, it is proper to give a look at them if only to congratulate ourselves with all proper humility that either our surrounding worldly circumstances here in America, which give everybody plenty of elbow-room, or the stronger operations of the grace of charity among our churchmen and laymen alike, have in good part purged away a sort of venomousness which is too perceptible in certain organs of the church by law established in England. The *Standard*, hearing of the statue, spoke of the 'Pilgrim's Progress' as a volume which stands next to the Bible on many book-shelves; but they are "the scantily-furnished shelves of Dissenters of the lower order." To the same journal's historic vision, the Puritans of Bunyan's time were "savage enemies of the church, traitorous assailants of the crown, merciless persecutors, and unscrupulous murderers." So was King David an adulterous tyrant, and Marcus Aurelius, as the Sunday-school historians deduce for us, a man of a cruel and bloodthirsty disposition. The *Church Herald*—says the *Examiner and Chronicle*, to which we are indebted for our facts—thought Bunyan "a sectarian of some natural ability," belonging to a class "who managed to disobey most effectually one of the plainest and most explicit commands of the Gospel, and refused to suffer little children to come unto Christ." In other words, the man who dreamed a dream and invented the City of Destruction and the Delectable Mountains, the Land of Beulah and the Slough of Despond, Giant Despair and Diffidence his wife, Mr. Great-heart and Vanity Fair, was not a Pedobaptist; and as his allegory has now been before the world two hundred years, it is a good time to consider its author in his capacity as a person holding views on the subject of the baptism of infant children. The *Examiner and Chronicle* is a warm Baptist journal, and we give, without venturing comment, its statement that the *Church Herald* goes on to say that since a statue has been erected to Bunyan, another in blackened bronze should now be set up to the devil, and Dean Stanley should be asked to pronounce the eulogium. False liberalism is a nauseating thing surely; but as for conservatism of the type illustrated in the quotations above-given, what can be said of it? Its ineptitude, its failure to see the real point, and its bitterness and injustice naturally flowing from this intellectual failure, remind one as much of anything as of Solomon's question: "What is heavier than lead, and what is the name of it but a fool?" The scornfulness and insolence are, however, the qualities which will be most readily perceived, do the most mischief, and make most enemies to the cause in church and state which these and similar journals partly represent. No man of an ordinary sense of justice but resents such speeches, about whomsoever made.

—The Comte de Paris, who has already won a distinction in the literary field which is rare among members of royal houses, has just published in Paris a 'History of the Civil War in America,' in two volumes. The *Revue des Deux Mondes* for July 1 contains the opening chapter, in which the author describes the conditions, both social, political, and military, in which the outbreak of the conflict found the country both North and South, and discusses the real and ostensible causes of secession. Nothing fairer or more comprehensive or perspicacious has appeared within the same compass on these points, and his sympathies are plainly and undisguisedly, aristocrat though he is, with the "plain people" throughout, and with their social and political ideals. In exposing the falsity of the pretext put forward for English use at the outset, that the tariff was at the bottom of Southern discontent, he falls into one error which, though slight as regards the war itself, has some importance as regards the fiscal history of the country and our present financial situation. He says that "the reproaches addressed to the Northern States by the Southern planters apropos of the protective tariff, which favored the manufactures of the latter, were [more] specious; in reality, they had no better foundation, for the Morrill tariff, the highest there has ever been in the United States, was passed under Mr. Buchanan, at the time when the President and Congress were both devoted to the interests of the South. If they [the Southerners] allowed that to pass when they could have hindered it, it was because they did not consider it injurious to their interests." Now the fact is that the Morrill tariff was not passed until March 2, 1861. At that time six Southern States had already joined the Confederacy, and were represented at the first Confederate Congress, which met February 4, in Montgomery. Moreover, the members from most of the other Southern States had ceased to attend or to take any interest in the delibera-

tions of Congress in Washington. Indeed, the rapidity with which a rigidly protectionist policy was adopted the instant the Southerners withdrew, did influence public opinion in England strongly in favor of the Southern theory of the tariff origin of secession.

MR. FROUDE ON THE PROTESTANT ASCENDANCY.*

II.

IN 1792, Charles Sheridan thus defined Protestant ascendancy:

"By Protestant ascendancy he meant a Protestant king, to whom only, being Protestant, they owed allegiance; a Protestant House of Peers, composed of Protestant lords spiritual in Protestant succession, of Protestant lords temporal with Protestant inheritance; and a Protestant House of Commons, elected by Protestant constituents; a Protestant legislature, a Protestant judiciary, a Protestant executive, in all and each of their varieties, degrees, and gradations."

This definition was accepted by the majority of the Irish House of Commons as describing the system of government which they were prepared to uphold.

In 1780, Grattan spoke as follows:

"Are we to be a Protestant settlement or an Irish nation? . . . The penal code is the shell in which the Protestant power has been hatched. It has become a bird. It must burst the shell or perish in it. Indulgence to Catholics cannot injure the Protestant religion. That religion is the religion of the state, and will become the religion of Catholics if severity does not prevent them."

Is it the intolerance of Charles Sheridan or the policy of Grattan which has the fairest claim to the title of statesmanship? This is the question which an historian of Ireland is compelled to answer. On his reply depends his whole view of the course of modern Irish and English history. Mr. Froude answers in effect, if not in so many words, that the policy of Grattan was the expression of fundamentally erroneous principles, and that the intolerance and bigotry of the Orangemen have been proved by events wiser than the wisdom of Burke, the statesmanship of Pitt, or the patriotism of Grattan. His criticism on Grattan's speech is enough to bear out the general description of Mr. Froude's sentiments, which we should have thought might be collected from every page of his work, were it not that an able critic has asserted, with astonishing hardihood, that Mr. Froude has nowhere "implied that Catholic emancipation was a bad thing in itself."

"Piece by piece," writes Mr. Froude, "the shell has been broken off. Has the Protestant bird developed power of wing in consequence? Do the Catholics seem any more to admire it? Let us look for answer in the Disestablished Church, in the obliteration of the Protestants in Ireland as a political power in the country, in the reduction of the Viceroy into a registrar of the decrees of the Vatican, and the boast of a cardinal that Irish nationality is the Catholic religion."

It is fair to test Mr. Froude's capacity as a political theorist by his views with regard to the penal laws and the policy of toleration. They give the color to the whole of his last two volumes. Though opposed to the received Liberal creed, they express the views of a large and increasing minority, who think that toleration as applied to Catholics is grounded on false principles and has ended in failure. Whether the history of Ireland proves that toleration is an error, is moreover a question of more than speculative interest to Americans no less than to Englishmen. Mr. Froude's confidence in his theories is unbounded. The constant assumption made throughout his work, that the history of Ireland supplies the practical confutation of liberal doctrines, impresses the imagination of his readers almost with the force of argument, for not one in a hundred considers whether the facts, even as told by Mr. Froude, support Mr. Froude's conclusions. The object of the present article is (omitting all the other interesting questions raised upon Mr. Froude's last work) to consider whether events have really proved that the policy of intolerance was, in Ireland at least, wiser than the policy of toleration.

No candid enquirer can dispute that the hopes of Grattan and of the greatest English and Irish statesmen of his day have not been entirely fulfilled. The penal laws have been abolished and Irish Catholics now enjoy the full rights of citizens, yet no one can pretend that Ireland has become a contented country or that Catholicism has ceased to be an aggressive and intolerant creed. Not Grattan alone, but every statesman of the time, believed, and believed with apparent reason, that Romanism was a superstition which was losing its hold on mankind, and would die out under the influence of enlightenment and progress. The experience of the last fifty years shows that this view was in part a mistake. The generation who have witnessed the Ecumenical Council know that delusions which have their roots in the weaknesses of human nature, and are upheld by the tradition of cen-

* 'The English in Ireland in the Eighteenth Century. By J. A. Froude, M.A.' Vols. II and III. London: Longmans & Co.; New York: Scribner, Armstrong & Co.

turies, will die (if they die at all) as slowly as they have grown up. Not only is Catholicism not dead, but it has in appearance gained new force and audacity. At the end of the last century, it only asked permission to live. The question now is whether it will suffer other creeds to exist. All this and much more (if necessary) may be granted to the school of writers whom Mr. Froude represents. But to concede that the Papacy commands far greater power than at the end of the last century any one supposed it to possess, goes but a very little way towards showing either that the views of Grattan or that the general policy of toleration was grounded on error. Mr. Froude's facts support three conclusions which are fatal to his theories. They show that the system of Protestant ascendancy was tried and failed; that the whole policy of Grattan had, if it had been fairly tried, a fair chance of success; and that the portion of that policy which has been tardily carried out has achieved if not brilliant yet satisfactory results.

The scheme of Protestant ascendancy turns out, on Mr. Froude's own showing at least, as impolitic as it was unjust. Its aim was to crush Romanism and to bind England and Ireland together. Romanism was not crushed, and after a century of Protestant rule the English colony rose in arms to extort independence from England at the very crisis of her fate. If it be urged that the system broke down because it was not fairly carried out, and that Protestant ascendancy might have succeeded if carried out in the spirit of Cromwell, the reply is not far to seek. Cromwell's policy was a far juster system than any which for generations succeeded it, because the Protector was, if a tyrant to the Catholics, a perfectly just ruler to all classes of English settlers; but like every other policy it must be tested by its results. It was not kept up, and there is no proof that it could, England being what it was, have been permanently supported. The penal laws, it may be urged, were not strictly enough enforced. This plea is their severest condemnation. They were not enforced because they were opposed to all the best instincts of human nature; but not being enforced, they stimulated, if they did not produce, that contempt of law which was in the last century the characteristic of Irish Protestants no less than of Irish Catholics. Absenteeism, it may be said, did Ireland far greater injury than the penal code. Let this be granted for the sake of argument. It will not avail the supporters of persecution, for absenteeism had its roots in the system which excluded the mass of Irishmen from ownership of the land and gave large estates to landlords whose home and interests were in England. The atrocities of '98 seem to Mr. Froude the condemnation of Catholic emancipation. To most persons they appear the condemnation of a system which made Mr. Thomas Fitzgerald the hero of one class and Father John Murphy the hero of another. "But," (it may be said, and this appears a line of argument which Mr. Froude is inclined to adopt,) "the Irish Parliament was the source of Irish calamities." Unfortunately for this assertion, the Parliament was abolished and Protestant ascendancy was maintained. From 1800 to 1829, the policy of George the Third was carried out to the full. It came to an end because its continuance would have caused a civil war which the Duke of Wellington was not prepared to provoke. The forcible suppression of a national movement is apt to appear a much more serious thing to a trained soldier than to writers who feed their imaginations on pictures of slaughter and executions in the quietness of the study.

Of the failure of Protestant ascendancy to secure its objects it is possible to speak from experience. Speculations as to the success of Grattan's policy must rest on conjecture. His schemes were never more than partially carried out. He and his English allies advised timely and ample concessions. No one but a madman ever advised that concession should first be promised and the promise be broken at the very moment of expected fulfilment. The Fitzwilliam crisis explains the movement of '98. It is simply ridiculous to make Grattan responsible for results which followed from his policy's not having been followed. His schemes no doubt might under any circumstances have ended in failure. The question is whether between 1782 and 1792 it might not have been possible to induce Irishmen to merge religious and class distinctions in common national feeling. Calm observers may hold that Grattan's idea of an Irish nation could never have been realized. The penal laws and the confiscation of estates with which they were connected had perhaps formed divisions which nothing but length of time could obliterate. But it may fairly be noticed that Grattan had several circumstances in his favor which are now forgotten. The Volunteer movement had been a national movement, and had excited genuine patriotic sentiment. The progress of the French Revolution made the priests disinclined towards violent democratic schemes, and, if not actively loyal, at least disposed from interest to support the English connection. If the Catholics had, at a time when religious men of all creeds looked upon the revolutionists as common enemies, received full civil rights, there is reason to suppose they might have become loyal citizens. The animosity which had once existed between Papists and Protestants had sensibly declined, as

may be seen from the fact that the authorities of Trinity College were prepared to go a great way in meeting the demands of Catholic students. When Grattan dreamed of an Irish nation, the people had not yet been divided into irreconcilable factions by the animosities and recollections of '98.

Part only of Grattan's policy was carried into effect, and that portion was not carried out either in the mode or at the time he counselled. Emancipation in 1829 was a different thing from emancipation in 1792 or even 1800. In spite of the warnings of Burke, it followed instead of preceding the Union. In 1792, the priests feared France, and the Pope was in effect the ally of England. The Catholics had not yet learned their power. The Catholic priesthood were in part affected by the tolerant doctrines of the eighteenth century. In 1829, the tide had turned. The Papacy was preparing a career of aggression. Ultramontane doctrines were spreading throughout the Catholic world, and the Papists of Ireland had found a tribune of their own religion. If the measures of 1829 have failed, it is impossible to argue from their failure that the policy of Burke and Pitt must also have failed if tried in due season. To the obstinacy and cunning of George the Third it is due that the Union was not associated in the minds of the Catholics with the acquisition of political rights. Mr. Froude's new hero lost England both the American colonies and the best opportunity which has ever occurred of reconciling Ireland to the British rule. But the policy of toleration, tried as it was under every disadvantage, has not failed. To expect gratitude from human beings for the mere concession of their just rights is folly. Nor is gratitude a feeling ever experienced by one nation to another. To expect, again, that the removal of one grievance will take away the feelings generated by grievances of a different kind is absurd, and Mr. Froude, in pointing out as he has done the numerous evils under which Ireland has suffered, fully explains why the removal of religious disabilities alone did not at once put an end to discontent. A peasantry suffering under unjust laws cannot be expected to become loyal subjects simply because they have ceased to suffer from the penal code. What may be expected from one measure of justice is, that particular discontents be removed or lessened. No one who forms simply just expectations of the results to be attained from remedial legislation, will feel disappointment at the effect of the policy of toleration. The Ireland of to-day is not a credit to English statesmanship, but the Ireland of to-day is, on Mr. Froude's own showing, a far more prosperous and far less discontented country than the Ireland of 1800. Irish history, tell it how you will, is a melancholy record of human tyranny and folly. No sane student can believe that any policy whatever can remove within one or two generations the ill results of centuries of misgovernment. What a critic unblinded by partisanship or love of paradox can perceive is, that the last course which prudence suggests for the remedy of existing evils is to revert to a forsaken policy and attempt to rekindle the spirit of Protestant ascendancy when the grounds which explained, if they did not excuse it, have ceased to exist. Grattan's anticipations were not in all points realized, but no advocate of the doctrine that might makes right can, whatever his literary skill, ultimately conceal the fact that the noble toleration of Grattan was far more prudent, as well as far more just, than the bigotry and intolerance of Charles Sheridan or Fitzgibbon.

OWENS COLLEGE ESSAYS AND ADDRESSES.*

THE perusal of this goodly volume suggests the question whether it might not be well for some of our leading universities to publish now and then specimens of lectures, instead of examination-papers, by way of giving some idea of what they are capable. The capabilities of this new English college are advantageously shown by these professorial essays. The college was founded on the bequest of John Owens, merchant, in 1851, was reconstituted and incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1871, and its new buildings were formally opened in the autumn of 1873, by the Duke of Devonshire, the president. From his brief and pertinent address, prefixed to the volume, we learn, among other things, that the founder was wise enough to forbid the use of any portion of his bequest for building purposes. Whereupon the citizens of Manchester, as they ought, took this matter in hand, and supplied the needful buildings at a cost of somewhat more than a hundred thousand pounds, thus giving their college a fitting local habitation without diminution of the endowment. The first address in this commemorative volume (following the brief and modest one of its titled president) was delivered upon the occasion by the Principal and Professor of Greek, Dr. Greenwood: "On some Relations of Culture to Practical Life." Published at the time in some of the literary and scientific journals, it had attracted our attention, and we copied some passages in which the importance, and the

* Essays and Addresses by Professors and Lecturers of Owens College, Manchester. Published in commemoration of the opening of the new college buildings, October 7, 1873. London and New York: Macmillan & Co. 1874. Pp. 560, 8vo.

grounds of the importance, of a common groundwork of culture for all students were set forth.

In the essay or lecture which follows, upon "Original Research as a Means of Education," another and a different but not really antagonistic view is maintained by Professor Roscoe, the chemical professor. The presentation of the educational advantages to be gained by original scientific research relates mainly to chemistry, as is natural, and the case is admirably put. But it is curious to notice that while the professor believes "that, from the nature of things, chemistry serves better than any other science as a field for calling into active exercise the abilities which original investigation undoubtedly promotes," it is commended because of the ease with which in its present state even the young student may do original work in it of a certain importance; whereas in literary and classical subjects, to make any real progress demands far more and wider knowledge, "and thus investigation leading to any new results is out of the young student's reach, and necessarily confined to mature and master minds." That is, comparatively small and narrow knowledge, specially directed, will tell far more in chemistry than in philology, logic, or history. The kind of discipline is undoubtedly good, and the attendant advancement of knowledge is so much gain; but the easier and the more special the work, the less, perhaps, its educational importance. We should say that one great educational value of chemical and physical research is the habit it gives, or ought to give, of dealing closely with facts.

"Solar Physics," by Prof. Balfour Stewart, the third of the series, is lucid and brilliant, as befits the topic; and, indeed, is one of the best elaborated as well as the liveliest of popular scientific expositions. No one can well read it without getting a clear idea of what is known and inferred as to the physiognomy of the sun, the nature of sun-spots, and the relations of the sun to terrestrial changes. Some remarks at the close, bearing upon the question of intelligence in the universe, are more subtle. Referring to the conclusion that the sun's atmosphere, as well as that of our earth, is in a delicate state of equilibrium, so that a very small cause may often produce a very great effect; that delicacy of construction, implying instability, is essential to animal life, without which, without pretending to know what life is, we may feel assured that it cannot exist; and that, as "we perceive in the universe generally, as well as in our own frames, the existence of such delicacy, the question naturally occurs: Can the universe in any sense be regarded as an animated structure in which, as in our own frames, intelligence may assume great freedom of action without the subversion of the fundamental laws of energy?" The answer may help non-physicists, and some physicists as well, to a clearer conception of what is involved in certain mooted questions of the day:

"While we cannot, from the physical point of view, pretend to reply to this question, we should yet wish to indicate what is conceived to be the true position of physical science with regard to it.

"In the first place, it is very difficult to separate the physicist from the man. I see one man shoot another, but what do I see as a physicist? Why, first of all, I recognize a conversion of the energy of the gunpowder into the visible energy of the bullet; going back a little further, I trace the bestowal by means of the forefinger of a certain amount of energy upon the trigger; going back a little further, I know that this bestowal of energy denotes a certain consumption of muscular fibre, and also a certain minute change in the matter of the brain. Thus, as a physicist, I can only arrive at a physical antecedent. . . . But yet I know as a man that the act was a foul murder, and will do my very best to bring the murderer to justice, whatever be my ideas with respect to the position of life in the universe of energy. Thus as a physicist I recognize the delicacy of construction which appears to be necessary to the embodiment of intelligence, but I cannot tell whether intelligence be there or not. My reasons for believing that it is there have nothing to do with physical science; they are derived from the consciousness that I myself exist, and from the conviction, derived from powerful reasons of an analogical nature, that my fellow-beings are similar to myself.

"But, again, when we regard the varied motions of an animated being, we find that these are of two kinds. Some are as nearly as possible mechanical, as, for instance, the beating of the heart and the circulation of the blood, which are not even spontaneous, and certainly convey no moral meaning whatever; others again are spontaneous, and convey unmistakable indications of a moral agent. Now, in the universe also there are certain motions that are strictly mechanical. . . . Unquestionably there is no moral significance in such motions. If the moon crosses the meridian when we do not expect her, what do we do? Why, only revise our calculations. But it has been shown in this essay that there are other motions of the universe associated with that element of delicacy which does not characterize the orbital motions of the heavenly bodies. Now, if a physicist be asked whether he has any reason to associate these motions with the spontaneous acts of intelligence directing these motions after a manner similar to that by means of which our intelligence directs our motions, his reply will be that he cannot tell. Recognizing the principle of delicacy, he may have no objection to urge; but the reasons for or against such an hypothesis must be derived from other sources, and the battle must be fought with other weapons than those of the physicist."

"The Distance of the Sun from the Earth," by Prof. Core; "The Limits

of our Knowledge of the Earth," by Mr. Dawkins; "The Use of Steam," by Prof. Reynolds, are the remaining physical topics. The only natural-history lecture is by Prof. W. C. Williamson, who discusses "Primeval Vegetation in its Relation to the Doctrines of Natural Selection and Evolution." The discussion is rather negative in its results, and the lecturer is cautious of drawing absolute conclusions, evidently regarding evolution somewhat as the canny Scot regarded Rob Roy—as "owre bad for blessing, and owre good for banning." "Science and Medicine," by Prof. Gamgee, is mainly historical. Prof. Wilkins presents some historical results of the "Science of Language." Prof. Theodores discourses at length upon "The Talmud," Mr. Breyman on "Provençal Poetry," Prof. Bryce, who occupies a chair in the Manchester college as well as at Oxford, on the "Judicature Act of 1873 in its Relation to the Judicial System in England." Prof. Jevons discusses "The Railways and the State"; Prof. A. W. Ward, "The Peace of Europe."

THE MAGAZINES FOR AUGUST.

IN *Lippincott's*, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell writes of the "curious lowering of tone" which American health undergoes every spring, of which little or nothing is said in our books of medicine—these being often in good part European—but which, in old times not yet passed out of the memory of the middle-aged, used to lead to many bleedings and to doing with physics of various strength, from calomel to dandelion beer. Spring sickness was the name for this spring-time indisposition to work, accompanied by an inability to get any good from one's food and a general lowness of spirits. One cause of it, Dr. Mitchell thinks, may be the malarious element which is operative over so large a part of the country, and he thinks it would be well to make enquiry whether in older countries free from ague-poison the breaking up of the winter weather is thus capable of pulling down people's strength. But what he is inclined to think a far more widespread and efficient cause of this trouble of the spring, is the nervous wear and tear of the winter preceding. All over America, he remarks, the time of the most severe and steady labor is from early autumn up to late spring—or, as he ought to have said, up to the time when early summer has gone. Of course it is of the professional, mercantile, and manufacturing classes that this is said—persons whose labor puts their nerves rather than their muscles under stress; and we may remark in passing that the fact that the farmer also undergoes his spring change as well as the broker, and needs his dandelion beer, does not really militate against Dr. Mitchell's argument. Confirmation of the theory which primarily connects the spring lassitude of our city-men with the state of their nerves, the doctor finds in some statistical evidence which he has gathered in Philadelphia, in regard to the nervous disease called chorea, a disease once bearing the better-known name of St. Vitus's Dance. A great number of choreal cases, he says, are subject to relapses, and from an examination of the records of some years at his clinic it was found that not only do the relapses occur in spring, but also that a vast proportion of the new cases take place at that season. This is striking, because chorea, according to our author's assertion, has no relation to malaria, and is a complaint which any enfeebling causes are apt to evolve. Whatever the correctness of his diagnosis, Dr. Mitchell goes on to prescribe a course of treatment which ought to be enough for a long and grisly train of maladies and taints. It is, in brief, that the tired-out man, suffering from one or another of the ailments of over-civilization, shall throw himself into the lap of barbarism—go into the forest, catch the fish he eats, sleep under hemlock branches, get up from sleep at sunrise, go to bed fatigued with travel or food-getting at eight o'clock, sleeping a dreamless sleep and rising to the mindless pleasure of the simplest of camp existences. The camp-cure this is called, and doubtless several thousands of our fellow-citizens, following the light of unassisted nature, are even now employing themselves as Dr. Mitchell recommends. He mentions half-a-dozen regions where camping out may be done; but apparently his heart goes out most readily to the shores and woods of Lake Superior. He speaks well also of the Maine woods—despite the black fly—and of the noble St. John River. Of the more accessible Adirondacks he says less, they not being much known to him personally; but he mentions the advertisement given them some years since by a Boston clergyman—one of those apostles of liberty who have been at such a premium of late years, and whose grand freedom from the shackles of systematic theology, and of good sense, and of unsensational truthfulness and modesty the public is now beginning to take a closer look at than it has taken for years, and to judge of with its eyes open. "The Adirondacks woods," says Dr. Mitchell, "have been pretty fully advertised in a work of fiction by a reverend gentleman in Boston, who describes trout as leaping some few feet out of water, and who shoots loons with a rifle from a rocking boat in a thunder-storm at night by the lightning-flashes."

This month's *Lippincott's*, besides the article by Dr. Mitchell, contains

one by Mrs. Fanny Fern, which breathes of tropical climes indeed in its glowing description of Eastern fruits and flowers, but breathes also of sherbet, and lemon groves, and that Indian punkah to which one of the *Nation's* valued contemporaries has at one time and another done so much to call public attention. Mr. William Black this month begins his new serial story, which bids fair to be like most of his other late stories in being made up of love and natural scenery. Picturesque Cornwall is Mr. Black's locality this time, and, as it has not yet been much described, our author's fault of too frequent description and of descriptive diffuseness will probably be less of a fault than usual. As for his principal characters, for two among them we have the familiar figures of the spirited young man in the strength and freshness of youth, and the young woman as constructed from the honestly respectful, rather romantic, masculine point of view. Mr. Black's habit of interpolating his story with scraps of old songs he still indulges in, and the reader, if almost willing to pronounce it a mannerism, is certainly unwilling as yet to condemn it, for it still gives pleasure; but, nevertheless, he would welcome some signs of a more restrained and frugal use of the device. When Miss Bell in the twilight sings "Lochaber no more," or when Sheila, the Princess of Thule, in like manner emphasizes a mood of the sea or of the sky or of her companions with an answering strain of music, it is seen to be very well. But so much cannot be said when in a third novel our author takes a new collection of songs—English, say, instead of Scotch—and proposes to move us for the third time in the same way. As it happens, too, there is an instance of a lowering of the method of management—an instance, perhaps, indicating that the device is felt to have been already hard-worked. This is when Miss Morwenna has proposed to her a very prosaic sort of a marriage, whereupon her song of "Wapping Old Stairs" comes into her head, somewhat to her amusement:

"Nor your Molly forsake,
Still your trousers I'll wash, and your grog, too, I'll make."

We have referred to one or two of Mr. Black's faults, or tendencies to faultiness; we have done so partly because we do not recollect that we have at any time spoken in much detail of his writings, they having usually first come to us in the form of magazine literature, and received then an incidental but regular mention. This "Three Feathers" bids fair to be as clever as the best of his productions. Mr. George MacDonald's "Malcolm" proceeds towards its end. The "New Hyperion" in this stage of its progress lends itself kindly to a drowse, and may be called good summer reading. Mount Desert is praised and half-described by a person who has spent a season there; and the only love-story in the August *Lippincott's* is noticeable for a slight but effective modification of a well-known invention—that of terminational aggrandizement. Thus, Fenwick is Fenwicke, and Althorp, Althorpe.

In the *Catholic World* there is a better maintenance of the undisturbed average of merit than is common in the August magazines; but there is not much to tempt the unsectarian reader. Of this little, Mr. De Vere's "Antar and Zara" may be counted a part, and another part is a story from the French of Ernest Hello, who, after some rather meaningless construction of machinery, endeavors to impress upon us the truth that a so-called innocent man may feel remorse for a crime which he has never committed. That is to say, he may never have materially committed a murder, and yet may be haunted by remorse for that crime, and even goaded by the ghost of a supposed victim into insanity itself. But, if our philosopher reasons well, this sufferer from remorse is not innocent. He has probably committed a real and spiritual crime, which, although forgotten, madness seizes hold of and transforms into an actual crime of which he believes himself guilty. In other words, the sub-conscious memory of a sin causes him to go mad and to believe himself guilty of an offence against the law. All this is sufficiently fine-drawn; and we could have for it, at best, only the testimony of lunatics. But unwise and useless as this story is, it is managed in some of its points with a cleverness entirely unlike that of our American story-tellers; the main structure, however, is as far from being successful as the spirit of the plot from being a lifelike spirit. "A Glimpse of the Green Isle" continues to be easy to read. The writer has got as far as from Queenstown to Dublin, and this is one of his observations by the way:

"The Irish in Ireland are becoming a serious people. I do not meet a single specimen of the Irish joker indispensable to the tourist in Ireland a quarter of a century ago. If he ever existed as they represented him, the railways have killed him." Again, "The traditional costume of the stage Irishman is as rarely seen in Ireland as the short-waisted, long-tailed coat, and striped trousers of the stage Yankee in the United States. I saw but one pair of knee-breeches between Cork and Kingstown. I did not encounter a single shillelah."

Our author thinks the gravity of the people to be due to their increased means of bettering their condition, either by going abroad or by staying at home and working for the better wages now everywhere paid both to skilled

and unskilled workmen. The examination of the validity of Anglican orders is carried on from last month, and so is the "Discussion with an Infidel"—Büchner namely. Büchner still displays his "clumsy sophistry and shameful contradictions," and unconsciously shows up his companion believers in force and matter to be "infidel scribblers and designing knaves."

In *Old and New* there is an article, one of a series, by the Rev. James Martineau, who enquires into the reasons for thinking that the fourth Gospel was written by John, and argues that for all reasons it nohow could have been so written, nor in fact by any of the inner circle of the disciples. The arguments as presented by Mr. Martineau are put with clearness and with as much calmness as force. In the same magazine a story with a faint resemblance to the stories gathered among the abbeys of Touraine, is told by a Bishop Ferette; its title is "The Old Capuchin and the Young Carmelite," and the reader will be apt to think that any magazine would be as well off without it as with it. "Our Sketching Club" is an essay of the deadlively vivacious order, but Mr. Ruskin vouches for the soundness of what its writer says about drawing and sketching. In the "Record of Progress" there is some account of the schools for the training of nurses—both of those which are more especially English schools, including Florence Nightingale's, and the American school in New York. The school in this city has twenty-six pupils, who do the nursing in five of the Bellevue wards, and it has branches in active operation in Boston, Philadelphia, and New Haven. In Boston there are fifteen pupils, who also serve in the hospital wards. This is regarded as the best sort of training for them. Miss Nightingale has thus estimated the value of such training and the relative value of the different kinds of nurses. It is a subject on which much more is said than is known, and, of what is said, much is said with great positiveness:

"With regard to an oft-disputed question whether it is desirable to train probationers entirely in a public hospital, I should say, without hesitation, it is there *only* that they *can* be trained; and every well-judging superintendent will tell you that the students, governors, steward, etc. (disagreeable as the collisions with them sometimes are), are the most valuable assistants in the training of her nurses. Whether in opposition or in kindness, she hears of all their shortcomings through the secular bystanders, which she would hear of in no other way. I have rarely known a nurse worth the bread she ate, whether religious or secular, whether Roman Catholic nun, Lutheran deaconess, Anglican sister, or paid nurse, who had not been trained under a hospital discipline, consisting partly of the secular man authorities of the hospital, and partly of her own female superior. I don't know which is the worst managed—the hospital which is entirely under the secular men heads, or the hospital which is entirely under the superior of the nurses, whether religious or secular, whether male or female."

In another part of the "Record of Progress" there are two or three reports from Bostonians who have had under consideration the subject of providing amusements for the poor. It was a sub-committee of ladies that first reported. They found that the persons for whom amusements would have to be provided, if at all, are mostly the Irish of the large cities and towns. But they found also that up to the time of the investigation, at any rate, this class had provided itself with amusements—these having been chiefly derived from drinking together and then fighting with each other, and this not only in America, but in all probability in their former home beyond the sea. Yet plainly it is a pleasure to them the committee also, think, to listen to each other singing old songs and telling stories of ancient times. "We have all," they say, "overheard the unending rigmaroles, which seem to have unfailing interest, of some elderly digger or ditcher"; and they think that the persons who are auditors on these occasions might with a little pains be drawn into public halls where they would listen at first to legends culled from "what they fondly call their national history," and afterwards could be led on to hear about passages from American history such as should stir their hearts. One such might be the daring of Putnam; another the romantic exploits of Marion; another the dash of Light-Horse Harry. Kindling their feelings with these, they might by-and-by "rise to the contemplation of that magnanimous and dauntless man who out of thirteen States made a nation." It is conceivable also that on the 22d of February the use of Faneuil Hall might be granted by the city government: should that be the case, the evening's amusement might begin "with an historic tableau of Washington crossing the Delaware (in every generation there is some man who looks like Washington)"; then some high-spirited, sweet-voiced person might recite parts of Longfellow's "Building of the Ship"; then a tableau from "Rich and rare were the gems she wore," etc., etc., etc. This is all curious as a Bostonian notion of how you are to produce good, rational, platform, transferable-ticket amusements for the people of a nation. The reader will observe, too, the friendly, sympathetic way in which the sub-committee speak of the drinking, fighting people who have what they "fondly call a national history." No wonder the comment which comes from Indiana on this hopeful report enquires if the idea of amusement for a people

does not involve the necessity of something which can be done by the people themselves. More sensible views than the sub-committee's are to the effect that free music-halls are a good means of amusement, and that these should also offer their visitors an occasional dance, song, or recitation, and should supply refreshments at a cheap rate. This is a New York view. A second Boston opinion is also favorable to what the holder of it would call free club-rooms, well warmed and lighted, and affording the materials for playing easy and pleasing games. But we are not long in coming on this latter lady's blackboard and chalk. Once in so often, she says, she would invite in "such a man as Professor Morse of Salem, or the late Professor Agassiz, whose skill with the crayon could make, by catching the eye, the dull understanding grasp pleasurably even scientific subjects." Mr. Gabagan, however, long before he had taken in any of the marvellous beauty that is revealed by modern chemistry, or had received more than his second electrical shock, would have heard so much over at the other lecture course about Brian Born, and Putnam and the bloody British, as to be well on his way to the Canada line as a Fenian contingent. Nothing in all this scheme appears to be praiseworthy except the intention; and that does not seem unalloyed when we note the unconsciously condescending tone of some of the ladies.

The *Atlantic* opens with a sketch of a Northumbrian fishing town close beside the Tweed, and inhabited by a people of a character as much Scotch as English—hardy, drunken on occasion, great searchers of the Scriptures many of them, as superstitious as brave, and of the simplest sort of lives. Many a primitive boulder long stood here. We must refer the reader to the sketch itself, which is entirely unpretentious, bears every mark of truth, is as interesting as a stormy day with a veteran Marblehead fisherman might be, and deserves to be read better than almost anything else in the month's magazines. We will, however, quote a few words. We must premise that "a Grinder" is a person who lives in a small hamlet a little distance to the north of the village, and whom the villagers hate desperately and without intermission. We must further premise that a sea-dog is a fish of the bigness of a cod, but more voracious than the grave, which destroys herrings by the school and even attacks the nets and tears out the captive fish. The story runs as follows:

"One of the fishermen, a regular attendant of the Presbyterian church, being on his death-bed, his friends, anxious for his future welfare, thought to ask him some questions in regard to his spiritual condition.

"Weel, Rab, ye're dyin', ye ken?"

"Ay, Jamie, I'm gaun."

"An' where d'ye expect t' gau t'?"

"I dinna ken, Jamie, but I wad like t' turn int' a sea-dog an' plunder the Grinders' nets." And thus he died!"

In *Scribner's* there is a good article on Georgia by Mr. Edward King, who does not let himself be blinded to the shortcomings either of whites or blacks, but who writes hopefully of the "Yankees of the South." Their

rehabilitation however is not an affair of to-day nor of to-morrow, and this Mr. King makes the reader see. Another article is about Mr. Sumner, written by his private secretary, and full of matter having a certain kind of interest, especially for Mr. Sumner's friends. About the secretary's powers of judgment and fitness for such business we do not know: we observe that he thinks it worth noting down that Mr. Sumner really verified the classical quotations in the revised edition of his speeches. The general subject of the late senator's character is treated of in the editorial department of the magazine, and with a discrimination which will prove more common as time goes on.

The *Galaxy* for August is light reading. Mr. Albert Rhodes writes, as thin as usual, about About; a writer, signing himself Launce Poyntz, proves General McClellan to have been a feeble and almost good-for-nothing soldier, General Lee an inferior soldier in attack though good in retreat, as an engineer officer should be, and General J. S. Johnston much the superior of either of them, and worthy to rank in the class of great second-rate commanders, such as Turenne, Wellington, and Sherman. Our author appears to be commendably sure that he is right, and that being the case goes ahead accordingly, and at a great rate. We can commend, as helping one to a glance of discernment over our historical past, an article by Mr. Henry W. Frost, entitled 'How they lived before the Revolution.' The writer has, perhaps, put into one article what might with good husbandry and a little more fullness of matter have made two or three, and in any case it would not be disagreeable to hear from him again. Mr. R. G. White discusses the use of "shall" and "will," and incidentally digs up from a far part of the yard the old bone so often growled over by himself and Mr. Fitzedward Hall. He soon drags it away and buries it, however, to the gratification of the reader, and goes on coherently. Illustrated articles on Newport, Mexico, the Canadian boundary line, and the American railroad generally considered, fill up more than half of *Harper's Magazine*. They all are good, or good enough, but the one on American railroads, if read and believed in, is sufficient to make one acquiesce with resignation if not with cheerfulness in one's destruction or mutilation by an accident on the road. The dangers, the responsibilities, and the admirable bearing of them by the great army of engineers, conductors, brakemen, station-hands, and other employees, are shown to the reader in a new light, and the article is worth reading.

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BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Authors.—Titles.	Publishers.—Prices.
Burt (H. M.), Guide to the White Mountains.....	(Springfield) \$1 35
De Vere (A.), Alexander the Great: a Dramatic Poem.....	(Cath. Pub. Soc.) 2 50
Hale (Rev. E. E.), In His Name: a Story of the Wilderness.....	(Roberts Bros.)
Perkins (F. B.), Scrope: a Tale.....	(Roberts Bros.)
Stetler (A.), Hand-Atlas, Part 2, and.....	(L. W. Schmidt)
Siglar (H. W.), Progressive English Exercises.....	(Henry Holt & Co.)
Woodruff (H.), The Trotting Horse of America, 18th ed.....	(Porter & Coates) 2 50
Whitaker (J.), Reference Catalogue of Current Literature.....	(Scribner, Armstrong & Co.)

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THE WEEK IN TRADE AND FINANCE.

NEW YORK, July 27.

MONEY has remained extremely abundant during the week at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., with occasional loans at 3 per cent. On Saturday money was loaned as low as $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., while to-day it is offered freely at 2 per cent. per annum for a week. The bank statement on Saturday was favorable, and showed an increase of \$420,075 in the net surplus reserve. The following gives the changes in the different items:

	July 18.	July 25.	Differences.
Loans.....	\$285,315,000	\$284,168,100	Dec.. \$1,146,900
Specie.....	27,755,300	26,646,700	Dec.. 1,108,600
Legal tenders.....	61,853,700	63,714,800	Inc.. 1,861,100
Deposits.....	242,983,600	244,313,300	Inc.. 1,329,700
Circulation.....	25,727,500	25,767,600	Inc.. 40,100

The following shows the relations between the total reserve and the total liabilities:

	July 18.	July 25.	Differences.
Specie.....	\$27,755,300	\$26,646,700	Dec.. \$1,108,600
Legal tenders.....	61,853,700	63,714,800	Inc.. 1,861,100
Total reserve.....	\$89,609,000	\$90,361,500	Inc.. \$752,500
Reserve required against deposits.....	60,745,900	61,078,325	
Excess of reserve above legal requirements.....	28,863,100	29,283,175	Inc.. 420,075

In the stock market the interest has centred altogether in Lake Shore. The directors of the company wisely decided not to pay any dividend to the stockholders in August, the excuse for not doing so being that the road had not earned one. The directors, however, have made a statement of the earnings and expenses for the six months ending June 30, and express the hope that it will not be necessary in future to omit the payment of dividends. The statement is as follows:

Earnings.....	\$8,674,839
Operating expenses (including cost of steel rails, substituted for iron), and taxes (equal to 66 per cent. of earnings).....	5,008,993
Interest, Leases, and Dividend on Guaranteed Stock.....	\$1,380,000
Discount on Bonds sold.....	190,000
	1,570,000
Leaves equal to 3.025 per cent. on capital stock.	\$1,495,846
The above amount has been expended for the following purposes:	
On construction.....	\$263,770
On equipment.....	626,686
	\$890,456

All this was under contracts made by the previous administration prior to June 30, 1873, which contracts are now all closed.

For payments on floating debt.....	605,390
The present floating debt is.....	\$1,495,846
The reduction therein since January 1, 1874, other than by earnings as shown above was from proceeds sales second mortgage bonds.....	\$2,100,000

There is a difference of opinion as to the propriety of not adding the \$890,456, spent on construction and equipment, to the "operating expenses," but as this would have shown that a dividend of only a little over 1 per cent. had been earned on the stock, we can understand why it was not so stated. There was some little activity in the Pacific Mail upon news having been received of the loss of a steamer. The price of the stock fell off about 1 per cent., but almost immediately recovered, when it was known that the company's loss was fully covered by insurance.

The investment stocks have been almost lifeless, and brokers who make dealings in that class of securities their special business say that they have never had so little inquiry for them as they have had during the present month, when the large disbursements of money by the Government and corporations place in the hands of people the funds which they have heretofore reinvested in sound dividend-paying stocks. There has been a light demand for Lackawanna at 107 to 107 $\frac{1}{2}$, and for New Jersey Central at 105 $\frac{1}{2}$. Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy has sold at 105, the demand for it coming from Boston, where the road is chiefly owned.

The following shows the highest and lowest sales of the leading stocks at the Stock Exchange for the week ending Saturday, July 27, 1874:

	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wed'day.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.	Sales.
N. Y. C. & H. R....	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,700
Lake Shore.....	74 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 75 $\frac{1}{2}$	209,200
Erie.....	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{1}{2}$ 33 $\frac{1}{2}$	55,400
Union Pacific.....	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 26 $\frac{1}{2}$	11,600
Chi. & N. W.....	38 38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 38 $\frac{1}{2}$	10,600
Do. pfd.....	56 56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 56 $\frac{1}{2}$	56 56 $\frac{1}{2}$	400
N. J. Central.....	105 105 $\frac{1}{2}$	105 105 $\frac{1}{2}$	105 105 $\frac{1}{2}$	105 105 $\frac{1}{2}$	105 105 $\frac{1}{2}$	105 105 $\frac{1}{2}$	300
Rock Island.....	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	98 $\frac{1}{2}$ 98 $\frac{1}{2}$	36,900
Mil. & St. Paul.....	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	20,000
Do. pfd.....	54 54 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 54 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 54 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 54 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 54 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 54 $\frac{1}{2}$	600
Wabash.....	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	35 $\frac{1}{2}$ 35 $\frac{1}{2}$	9,200
D. L. & W.....	108 108 $\frac{1}{2}$	108 108 $\frac{1}{2}$	108 108 $\frac{1}{2}$	108 108 $\frac{1}{2}$	108 108 $\frac{1}{2}$	108 108 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,300
O. & M.....	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	25 $\frac{1}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,700
C. C. & I. C.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17 $\frac{1}{2}$	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17 $\frac{1}{2}$	800
W. U. Tel.....	72 72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 72 $\frac{1}{2}$	61,500
Pacific Mail.....	44 $\frac{1}{2}$ 45 $\frac{1}{2}$	44 44 $\frac{1}{2}$	44 44 $\frac{1}{2}$	44 44 $\frac{1}{2}$	44 44 $\frac{1}{2}$	44 44 $\frac{1}{2}$	29,500

Nothing official has come to hand at this writing in relation to the Treasury award of new 5 per cent. bonds, for which the proposals for the remaining unsold \$179,000,000 were opened on the 23d inst. Some \$10,000,000 were awarded at par and accrued interest, and the Treasury Department is now considering an offer made by a syndicate, composed of American and foreign bankers, for \$55,000,000, with the privilege of taking any part of the balance at the same price within a certain length of time. Exactly what time is asked for is not definitely known, but is supposed to be twelve months. The Treasury considers the time which the syndicate asks as too long, and at present the two parties are endeavoring to arrive at some sort of a compromise.

Pending the settlement of the Government sale of new 5's the market has been very dull, the dealers not being disposed to purchase until the transaction is closed.

The market closed steady at the following quotations this evening:

	BID.	ASKED		BID.	ASKED
Registered 6's, 1881, c.....	118 $\frac{1}{2}$	118 $\frac{1}{2}$	Registered 5-20, 1867, c.....	117 $\frac{1}{2}$	117 $\frac{1}{2}$
Registered 5-20, 1863, c.....	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	Registered 5-20, 1868, c.....	118 $\frac{1}{2}$	118 $\frac{1}{2}$
Registered 5-20, 1864, c.....	115 $\frac{1}{2}$	115 $\frac{1}{2}$	Registered 10-40's, c.....	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	113 $\frac{1}{2}$
Registered 5-21, 1865, c.....	116 $\frac{1}{2}$	116 $\frac{1}{2}$	Registered 5's, 1881, c.....	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	113 $\frac{1}{2}$
Registered 5-20, new, 1865, c.....	116 $\frac{1}{2}$	116 $\frac{1}{2}$	U. S. Currency 6's.....	117 $\frac{1}{2}$	117 $\frac{1}{2}$

The fluctuations in gold have been confined between 109 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 110 $\frac{1}{2}$. There has been a total lack of any speculative spirit, and the market has been left to itself. The following shows the daily range of quotations:

	Open- ing.	Highest.	Low- est.	Closing.
Monday, July 20....	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	110 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tuesday, July 21....	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	110 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wednesday, July 22....	110	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thursday, July 23....	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	110	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$
Friday, July 24....	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$
Saturday, July 25....	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	110	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109 $\frac{1}{2}$

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